CELEBRATING THE DIVERSITY OF GENDER EXPRESSION

Transgender Tapestry

Issue #77 Fall 1996

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WHAT DOMA MEANS TO TGS

TG, DEPRESSED?
Read Dear Gianna

THE F2M MOVEMENT GROWS UP

SPECIAL SECTION: TG THERAPY
What CDs and Spouses Can Expect
TS Need Transition Not Therapy

A GLITTERING SEASON OF TG EVENTS

Sheila Kirk on
HARRY BENJAMIN

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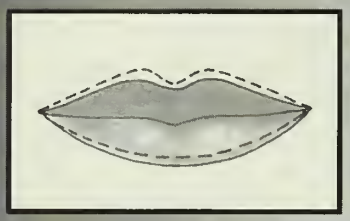

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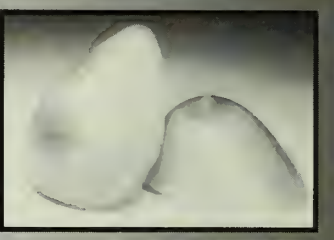

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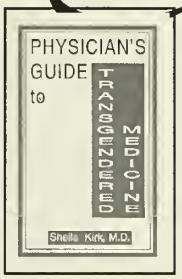

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Transgender Tapestry

Issue # 77

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About The International Foundation For Gender Education

The International Foundation for Gender Education is the largest non-profit organization serving the transgendered community. This community is comprised of crossdressers, transsexuals, gender-benders, anyone who does not identify with traditional gender roles, and all who support freedom of gender expression. Crossing social, economic, political, and philosophical lines, IFGE's constituents are bound together by a common desire to freely explore and express their gender identities by transcending gender norms. The community consists of a growing network of over 300 local, regional, and national support organizations ranging from informal support groups to non-profit organizations, and publishers of gender-related material.

IFGE goals include:

To educate members of the TG community, the general public, media, and elected officials on crossdressing, transgender, and transsexual issues;

To educate medical, psychological, and psychiatric health-care professionals and other care providers about TG facts, needs, and special issues;

To monitor legislation that affects the TG community;

To provide legal back-up and/or referrals for victims of discrimination;

To provide outreach and referrals for individuals and organizations within the TG community.

IFGE services include:

Mailings of event and product information gratis for other non-profit groups in the TG community;

Telephone hot-line with direct access twelve hours a day;

Referral list of organizations and health-care providers around the world that can assist TG individuals in making contact with resources in their area;

On-going communication with community leaders and assistance to those leaders to help provide better local service and programs;

A communications network designed to accept and distribute information about activities, programs, educational and support services, and potential threats against community members from legislative repression;

Workshops for professionals;

Library, resource center, and archive open to the public;

Funding for various research, educational, and community projects;

Financial and/or strategic support for the Congress of Transgendered Organizations (CTO), the New Women's Conference, the Spouse/Partners International Conference for Education (SPICE), the International Conference for Transgendered Law & Employment Policy (ICTLEP), the International Congress on Crossdressing, Sex & Gender, FTM Interntional;

Outreach to organizations of helping-professionals such as the American Psychiatric Association (APA), the American Association of Sex Educators Counselors and Therapists (AASECT), and the National Association of Social Workers (NASW);

Annual IFGE convention, building a strong and effective community through educational seminars and social events;

Producing and distributing educational video, audio, and printed materials covering the complete spectrum of transgender issues;

Publication of *Transgender Tapestry*, the largest circulation of any periodical in the TG world, provides a forum for informative articles on gender and related matters. For many people it provides initial contact with the transgender community;

Tapestry Journal, a monthly magazine on the World Wide Web;

An on-site bookstore open to the public.

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Dear Gianna:

Gianna E. Israel

Transgender and Depressed?

Dear Gianna:

I am a closeted M2F cross-dresser. I have always felt depressed. But lately it seems to be worse. Is it me? Or what?

J. Lee
Boulder CO

Depression is the leading mental health issue faced by transgender persons. However, unless a client or reader's depression has progressed to crisis proportions, it is the subject gender therapists are least likely to receive questions about. Depression is also the leading mental health issue faced by those who do not have a TG identity. With this knowledge it should be clearly understood that when TGs are depressed, it does not mean that having a TG identity or fulfilling one's crossdressing needs is pathological, mentally disordered or medically diseased.

Both TGs and non-TGs are equally unlikely to receive treatment for depression. This is tragic, because depression is one of the best understood mental illnesses, with recognizable symptoms and effective interventions. People do not seek treatment for a variety of reasons. Some individuals allow themselves to suffer tremendous pain, believing that obtaining help is shameful or a sign of weakness. Typically, these persons have bought into the notion that mental health issues are stigmatizing or less important than medical conditions. In other words, people are more likely to seek treatment after contracting a painful, sexually-transmitted disease than to get help for depression. It does not seem to matter how much emotional turmoil the person is suffering.

Within both populations there also exist numerous persons who recognize that they are moderately to severely depressed. Some of these individuals do not seek treatment because they believe it will be ineffective, or they are suspicious of the medical and mental health professions. Because TGs continue to be discounted, misdiagnosed or characterized as pathological, particularly by professionals unfamiliar with gender identity issues, it is understandable that some will feel hesitant in seeking support for depression. Addressing depression is critical for TGs. I will discuss it after providing basic information about depression itself and how it is identified.

Depression is a mood disorder characterized by extended feelings of sadness, loss, restlessness, discouragement, hopelessness, self-doubt and guilt. These feelings are often accompanied by noticeable changes in a depressed individual's regular sleeping, eating and sexual habits. They are also likely to have changes in self-perception, think negative thoughts on an on-going basis, have difficulty making decisions and sometimes contemplate self-destructive acts. Their emotions typically swing sharply between feeling angry, sad, melancholy or moody.

Depression is not about having one or several isolated bad or low-energy days; it's about feeling badly and having an emotionally poor quality of life day after day, with no hope of relief in sight. The preceding description reflects the state of mind that characterizes depression and lends understanding to why people do not seek treatment. The more severe the depression, the more limited an individual's ability to think realistically or to recognize options which might improve their quality of life.

Simply stated, most depressed persons routinely discount treatment options until everything else has failed. This type of "clouded" judgment also frequently slows the resolution of gender issues. Depressed TGs frequently feel compelled to move ahead in their transition without seeking adequate support. Also, in order to gain acceptance and reduce emotional turmoil, they may disclose their TG issues without having taken into account potential consequences or its effect upon others.

Depression is a mood disorder characterized by extended feelings of sadness, loss, restlessness, discouragement, hopelessness, self doubt and guilt.

It is well documented within professional literature that depression can be caused by either one or a combination of medical, psychological or circumstantial factors. As a result, there are a variety of treatment approaches which are designed to address this disorder. Therefore, while it is a positive step for people to acknowledge they are depressed, deciding one's own course of treatment or self-medicating is irresponsible and dangerous. A professional familiar with the treatment of depression should be consulted.

In some circumstances anti-depressant medications may be useful, particularly when an individual is in crisis or experiencing debilitating emotional pain. Most anti-depressants are designed to take the edge off of the extreme lows or sharp mood swings which accompany severe depression. They provide temporary emotional relief allowing the individual an opportunity to build coping skills. Anti-depressants vary in their recommended length of use. Several also address depression-related anxiety or manic-depression.

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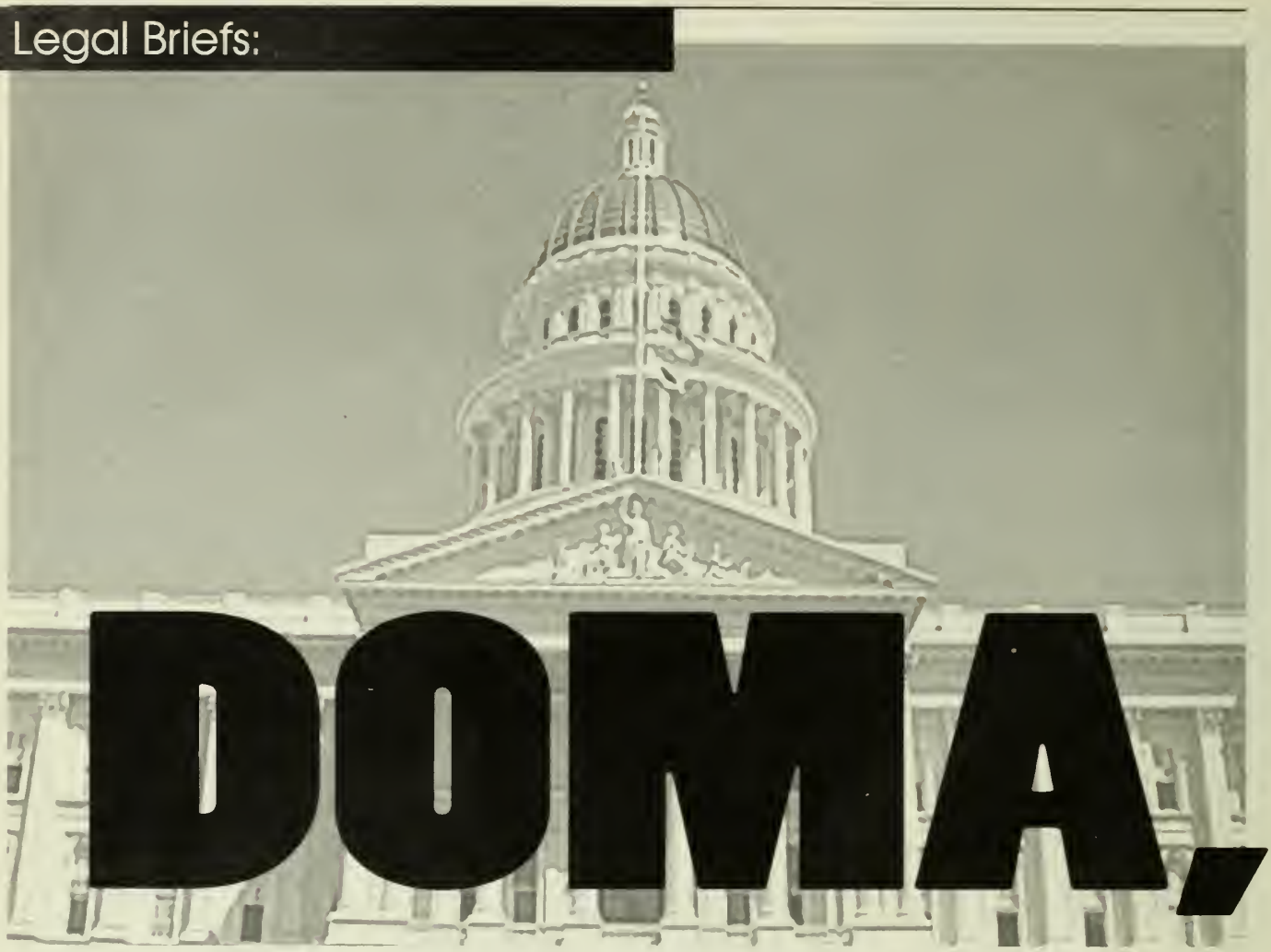

DOMA, THE TRANSGENDERED AND MARRIAGE

Dana Priesing, JD

It looks like the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA) is a done deal. Both the House of Representatives and the Senate have passed it, and President Clinton has promised to sign it. As my fellow bar member Deirdre Weiss put it, "DOMA is one of the stupidest pieces of legislation to come out of a Congress that apparently seeks to distinguish itself by passing one malicious statute after another." Well put.

Let's discuss how DOMA might affect members of the transgendered community. As always, remember that this article is legal chat, not legal advice. Although you may learn something from it, you'd be foolish to rely on it without supplemental, specific, legal advice.

DOMA contains two operative provisions. The first states, "No State, territory, or possession of the United States, or Indian tribe, shall be required to give effect to any public act, record, or judicial proceeding of any other State, territory, possession, or tribe respecting a relationship between persons of the same sex that is treated as a marriage under the laws of such other State, territory, possession, or tribe, or a right or claim arising from such relationship." This provision creates an exception to the usual Constitutional obligation of a state to give "full faith and credit" to the acts of other states. It allows any state not to recognize a same-sex marriage.

DOMA's second operative provision states, "In determining the meaning of Act of Congress, or of any ruling, regulation, or interpretation of the various administrative bureaus and agencies of the United States, the word 'marriage' means only a legal union between one man and one woman as husband and wife, and the word 'spouse' refers only to a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or a wife." This provision allows the federal government not to recognize a same-sex marriage or a spouse involved in such a marriage. The "spouse" clause is badly drafted, leaving the reader confused about exactly to what the spouse's sex is intended to be opposite. To steal a line from Kate Bornstein, just what sex would be the "opposite" of a post-operative XY female like me?

Seriously, although DOMA refers to same-sex marriage, it doesn't define "sex." Since each of us has a chromosomal sex, a biological sex, a sexual identity, a sexual orientation, and a social sex role—and for readers of this publication those five criteria likely are not in complete accord—how does one determine what is one's sex for the purposes of deciding whether one has a same-sex marriage under DOMA? This area is a quagmire. I suspect that for the pur

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It's Time For Your Medicine:

Harry Benjamin

Pioneer in Gender Studies, and the Medical Discipline He Established

Sheila Kirk, MD

The Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association developed the standard guidelines for identifying transsexual individuals and assisting their transition through sex reassignment surgery. HBIGDA was created nine years before Dr. Harry Benjamin's death by a small group of clinicians and researchers devoted to the study and care of the transgendered person, particularly the transsexual. Harry Benjamin gave them that devotion through his teaching, his lectures and publications. Several of the originators are living today, contributing to the fund of information and experience in the care and management of the transgendered person. Membership in this very learned and dedicated organization amounts to more than 350 individuals from all over the world. They are surgeons, medical physicians, psychiatrists, psychologists, social workers and sexologists who devote varying degrees of involvement to research reporting and clinical care of the transgendered person. Some are totally committed—others devote lesser amounts of time and effort, but all come together every two years in some part of the world to exchange, instruct and learn from the experience of their colleagues. They come together to carry on the great work of a great man who "heard old voices giving new utterances to an ancient complaint—to a condition that had prevailed throughout history, but which had precious few tellers, and no listeners and no treatment." In his day, Harry Benjamin alone listened and was inspired and compelled to journey into a unique new discipline.

The HBIGDA formulated a document regarding care of gender dysphoric individuals, "The Benjamin Criteria," in 1979, and has revised it four times since then. A committee has been appointed just recently to study revision once again and to report to the membership their recommendations in the fall of 1997 at the association meetings in Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. The criteria are guidelines that professional health care givers use in their assistance of the transgendered person.

But the real focus I want to give you is not just the HBIGDA, but rather the man who inspired those few who started it, and now the several hundred that devote their efforts and talents to our community. Dr. Harry Benjamin was born in Berlin in 1885 and was raised by very conservative, even rigid and restrictive parents. It's an interesting note for he sponsored a sexual liberality throughout his life that denied their influence. He experienced the political activities of Bismarck and Frederick III in his youth. He was a Cum Laude graduate of medical school and practiced medicine in Europe 25 years before Fleming made penicillin available to the world.

Dr. Benjamin came to the US in 1913 to join with researchers here to find a cure for tuberculosis; a far cry from the work that would eventually occupy him completely. Throughout his life he was a man of impeccable manners and evidently with some vanity, for he always felt that photographers and television cameras did not present him as they could. He worked with endocrinologic problems even as the specialty was beginning to emerge, and his interest in aging and gerentological disorders was lifelong.

Early in his practice of medicine in this country he developed a deep interest in the prostitute, her psychology, her diseases and her difficult position in society. He became her healer and defender. His interest in the field of sexology prompted him to become one of the founders and continuing members of the Society for Scientific Study of Sex. Even in his earlier years of medical practice he gathered around him a host of friends, colleagues, students and admirers. He was known as a considerate provider of care for his patient, and made it clear that in medicine the greater goal is to care for the patient—the total person—if not always to heal or cure the disease.

It was Alfred Kinsey who introduced Dr. Harry Benjamin to the transsexual patient. Prior to this the TS individual was an outcast almost avoided by the medical community. Dr. Benjamin already had the fire burning within him to help out the people who came to him for care—he was ready for the study and the life of dedication to this population—and it began with Kinsey who didn't himself know just what to do with this kind of person. From the very beginning, Benjamin always demonstrated a warm, kind and considerate attitude toward the person whose body didn't match the mind. This physician who had examined Enrico Caruso's tonsils for infection now gave devoted and expert care to the transgendered no matter where they appeared on the spectrum. His patients generally were the unknown, but eventually world famous individuals such as Christine Jorgensen and Renee Richards came to him for help. It's known that Christine was prompted to begin a support system for transsexuals under his guidance.

In his years of careful record

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Reclaiming Our History

The 2nd FTM Conference of the Americas

Andy Gavin

It's been almost a year both since I started on hormones and since I accepted Jean-Marie's invitation to write for this magazine. I can think of no better way to commemorate either occasion than to report on another, more general milestone — the second annual FTM Conference of the Americas, which was held in Seattle, Washington, this year. That said, this is not intended to be a blow-by-blow account of the conference so much as one man's impression of it. I could not attend every workshop, presentation, and panel, nor did I attempt to. To be honest, being gay-male-identified, I was too busy watching all the good-looking guys.

The first night's registration and welcoming events took place Friday evening, August 9th at Carpenter's Hall, as 318 F2Ms and their friends, partners, and admirers (with about a 70/30 ratio of F2Ms to others) began arriving for the conference. I was immediately struck by the difference in tone from last year's conference in San Francisco. Although there was the same intense feeling of excitement and camaraderie in the air, it was somehow quieter and more low key. What Seattle lacked in San Francisco's air of novelty, however, it made up for in a sense of growth and continuity.

As old friends saw each other again, on-line friends met in person for the first time, and new friendships were formed while we waited for the evening's programming to begin, our own physical and emotional change reflected our community's. Men who had looked adolescent the previous year now looked like young adults, and men who had looked like young adults now looked like full-fledged grown-ups. Last year I looked about 16 years old and had shoulders like a coat hanger. This year, many of my friends did not even recognize me at first.

Dr. Jason Cromwell, PhD with Jeff
Photo: Mykael Hawley

The conference formally began with welcoming announcements and proclamations by Ken, Gary D., Kory, and various speakers from the Seattle g/b/l community. Jason Cromwell, PhD, gave the key note address, combined with a slide show of F2Ms throughout history. Too often female-bodied people who lived as men are claimed by the lesbian community or dismissed as women in search of adventure. Although many of them lived in a time when they were not able to change their bodies, they were still men all the same, and, in an especially moving part of the evening, Jason reclaimed their lives and identities as he paused at each slide to speak of each one by his chosen name.

Other events included slide shows by photographers Mariette Pathy Allen and Loren Cameron. Allen's work,

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Issue #76

Letters And Comments From Our Readers

TRANSCRIPTIONS

Denny Challenges Kirk On Premarin

Dear Jean Marie:

In "An Open Letter on the Premarin Controversy" (issue #75), Dr. Sheila Kirk calls articles in the transgender press raising questions about the production of Premarin "ridiculous nonsense" and concludes that the evidence is compelling that horses used for the production of this medication live in ways which "best suit their needs." She sees no cruelty in housing pregnant mares in stalls, where they wear "pee bags," or in the fact that a portion of their foals are sold for meat.

While the literature of People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals (PETA) is certainly inflammatory, it is incontrovertible that raising animals in factory farm conditions is unnatural and extremely stressful for the animals. Studies have shown that mares, calves, pigs, and poultry confined in enclosures for long periods show self-injuring behavior that does not occur when they are unconfined. The bottom line in factory farming is not comfort of the animals, but rather maximizing the profit from each biological unit regardless of the consequences to those "units." Horses cannot talk, but I'm quite sure that if they could, they would tell us they would prefer to spend their time in a pasture rather than in a narrow stall wearing a urine collecting device.

Dr. Kirk counts as her primary authority Dr. Shauna Spurlock, citing Dr. Spurlock's credentials at considerable length. However, she fails to point out that Dr. Spurlock's paper "Care and Management of Horses at Pregnant Mares' Urine (PMU) Facilities" was commissioned and funded by Wyeth-Ayers, the manufacturer of Premarin. This calls into question Spurlock's objectivity. There are also questions about whether the PMU facilities Spurlock visited were spruced up for her inspection. What is more telling is that in a recent article in *Ag-Week*, PMU rancher Kevin Fitch reports that his mares get a total of 6.75 gallons of water daily. This is slightly more than half of what a mare requires, but it is an amount of water which maximizes profits at the cost of keeping horses perpetually thirsty. In other words, it is a typical factory farming sort of decision.

The fact is that more than 100,000 pregnant mares are being kept in less than idyllic conditions for the production of Premarin. Some readers of *Transgender* will dismiss this as unimportant. Others will be bothered by it. Each of us who takes Premarin must make a choice about the issue. Painting overly negative or overly positive pictures of the situation is the true "ridiculous nonsense."

Speaking for myself, nearly a year ago, I had my physician switch me from Premarin to the synthetic Estrace. It is less expensive, and I can tell no difference in the effect.

Dallas Denny
Director, AEGIS
Atlanta GA

(Transgender Tapestry is always pleased to offer dissenting opinions, when, as here, they are offered in the form of reasoned discourse and not in terms of personal pejoratives. We feel that, given the facts, all our readers are intelligent enough to reach the decision that is best for them. On the other hand, your editress' humble opinion is that, if asked, most people would prefer to spend their time in the great outdoors rather than in a small office as slaves to data processing devices. And that most of us have as little to say about it as these unfortunate mares. JMS)

Plea From M2F Teen's Mom

Dear IFGE:

I am the mother of a young transgendered person. She is a male-to-female TG child and is 14 years of age. Due to many reasons, primarily safety, at this point we are home-schooling her. Due to the issues of her being transgendered and home-schooled she is fairly isolated from other kids. We were wondering if there are any other kids that your organization might be aware of that she could perhaps be e-mail pen pals with. I recognize that her young age is unusual in that she is already transitioning. It would help so much for her to have others to converse with that would be able to understand or relate to her transgenderism. I am also very interested in conversing with some other parents of TG children. Any help on these matters would be most appreciated.

Mary
Denver CO
E-mail: mdenntabby@aol.com

Out And "Andro" In L.A.

Gentlepersons:

I couldn't agree more with Alison Laing's "Things Are Getting Better for Trans" (issue 76). But then again, I think it *depends* on where you live. A few days ago I went "andro" in public. My clothing was basically feminine, with the obvious article being a pair of gold-colored platform heel shoes (thong style). I wore no wig or makeup. Just being myself!

Amazingly, no one gave me a second look, or even noticed! I received several comments on my shoes (all from men!). Then again, this is Southern California, you know. If I did this in, say, Tulsa, Oklahoma, I probably would be writing you this letter from a hospital bed! Don't worry darlings, I'm careful!

Karen
Riverside CA

Hates The New Format

Dear Jean Marie:

Today I received issue #76, took one look at the cover, didn't even bother to open it, and am writing this letter in protest.

Okay, *Transgender Tapestry*, enough is enough! If it's really important to accept who we are and stand up for ourselves as you suggest, then why can't you put real TGs on the cover instead of a bunch of non-TGs pretending to be us? What exactly does it say about our community pride if we can't even represent ourselves on our own magazine cover?

Bring back Mariette Pathy Allen's wonderful portrait work of our community members!

Jean Vermette
Director, Maine Gender Resource and Support Service

(We, too, miss the highly-talented Ms. Allen's cover work. And we, too, think it is a wonderful idea to honor deserving community members. However, the TG community at large felt otherwise about those covers, and sales had been declining for the last three years. Had we continued, there would soon have been no magazine, and hence no covers to cause dispute. Since the change in format, however, sales and subscriptions within the community have not only increased—they have broken all-time records! Community members will still be honored, but within our covers, rather than on the exterior. We might note, however, when Out *and* The Advocate *ran covers of Patrick Swayze, there was no outcry from their readers; and that it takes considerable courage to portray and speak out for TGs, as both Patrick and Julie Andrews have. H.*

Letters And Comments From Our Readers

TRANSCRIPTIONS

Beecher Stowe wasn't Afro-American, but she had as great a positive impact on Black history as anyone of her era. JMS)

Likes The New Format

Dear Editor:

Looking at issue #76, I am proud and happy to see that our assorted gang has learned how to do good color and layout. I like it! Since I never have been quite sure whether I was CD or TS, I am rather impatient with those who think the other parties are getting too much coverage. I get coverage if, when, and as I write it myself, I guess.

Last Friday night this old lady took herself up to Charlemont and heard a great concert by Bill Balcom and his partner, then drove home (three hours) and survived. I find that I can get away with almost anything if I am wearing a skirt and my hair is clean. I completely forgot to put any makeup on my face, but no problem. People are nice to septuagenarian CDs. I just walk down the street like I owned it. I do; I paid my taxes, and so did three hundred years of ancestors. Not all of whom were damn straight arrow, either. My mother was in the DAR, and I come with an attitude. So be nice to me! I certainly don't need any high priced surgery to give me the right to go where and when I wish, so for this month, mark me down as a CD. I yam wot I yam, and a good electrolysis job will get you far!

Holly Cross
Needham MA

One CD's Angst And Joy

Dear *Transgender:*

One day, about ten years ago, I was working a very stressful job when I fell and broke my back. Among other things, the stress imposed upon me by deadlines on-the-job came to the surface and crossdressing became the imminent and forceful way that my psyche dealt with it. There was no personal decision to do it; I felt compelled by some force of which I had no real understanding. It wasn't enough for me to act out my fantasies in private; I was out in public doing it. Though in my private moments dressing relieved me of stress and relaxed me, in public, it was form of humiliation and breaking-down of my spirit, in that I just didn't have a handle on the situation at all.

For about three years or so, the intensity of the situation gradually lessened, but I really didn't know who I was or what the end result would be. I read just about every book, thesis, treatise or article that I could find. Most of the medical professionals with whom I came in contact during that time knew less about my problem than did I.

It was during those years that I first contacted IFGE, which has proven fateful. Almost all other gender organizations or clubs take the situation lightly or attempt to alleviate the "problem" by making a joke out of it. For a seemingly "straight" male to suddenly question his own gender identity and not have a palpable answer, the situation was anything but a "joke." IFGE is like a lighthouse and most of the discussion and advice is very commonsense and credible.

I don't think my life will ever be the same, although I can now say that I very much like and enjoy my alter ego. When in a very stressful situation, I now dress up (though appropriately covered up) and go on with life. I manage my desires (somewhat better than I once did), instead of them managing me. I would think that testosterone production cycles within the male have a lot to do with one's urge to dress up. Usually after sex, I just don't feel like staying dressed up, but it does get me excited before doing it. Nevertheless, there are episodes when I cannot contain myself nor withhold from an obsession with my own self-appearance. Though I could never really pass as a girl, and certainly never talk like one, I consider myself androgynous and would like to have a pair of nice breasts, less body hair, and not anything cut off.

Dressing and playing the part as a pseudo-woman may be interesting, but it is an illusion of an illusion. When one is dressed up, made up, and sits in front of a mirror, one sees what is in one's mind to see and not necessarily what anyone else would see. The stark reality of one's appearance and one's detached dreamy look of one's self are two independent concepts. I would bet that anyone who has ever placed a personal ad with a photo felt sexy and feminine, soft, warm, and vampy, when that picture was taken. But when the picture is published and others look at it, there is no emotional appreciation and that same photo generates a more coarse appearance. In other words, Crossdressing is a very intense PERSONAL experience.

When I delve into "Karen's" identity (even my handwriting is different), I even feel like I am in the back room inside my head when Karen is out front (I am aware, but not in control at the moment). I would surmise that at least a few other CDs also have a feeling of an alternate personality.

Denial does nothing but exacerbate more internal conflict and suffering. I could say it's probably better to figure out how to get along with one's self and keep on working towards progress of some sort. Many are the times that I am in the depths of turmoil that if it were not for a family that depends on me for their food and shelter, I think I would go out in the desert and blow my brains out.

Certain people in this world can attain some satisfaction and compromise through alteration of their physical body to more closely reflect their inward concepts and feelings. But for some, overwhelming stress and ridicule would be the result of any type of physical alteration. In other words, some are made for alteration and others are not. Some have thin bones and high cheek bones and small feet, or a face to die for. When those types dress up, only God knows for sure which gender they really did represent.

On the other hand, as a man with tendencies going toward a sex change, I have found that I am more masculine in character than I could ever effectively change or hide. I wear a size 13 men's shoe, and am tall enough that no pantyhose of what I deem a sexy quality could ever fit or last. And I certainly don't have facial features that would ever fool or foil anyone, or a torso that any teddy could ever fit properly. Yet, in my own mind, I have a personal experience no less sexy or feminine than anyone else. But I am also able to discern reality (sometimes). (My only real hope is to live my life as best I can and hope that the second time around, I come back as a girl; a vampy, sexy, and feminine girl.)

Not able to make a complete change, I am content to know that I am somewhere in-between, and also realize that each one of us is a unique individual inside, who does not have many parallels. It has been IFGE that has been responsible for all of us getting through the confusion and responsibly dealing and managing our new and ever-changing situation.

Karen Michael
North Las Vegas NV

News and Notes from the Gender Frontier

TRANS-ACTIONS

Nancy R. Nangeroni

WATER WORLD TG TREATMENT ALL WET

In July, a Sacramento-area transsexual woman visiting the Water World theme-parkin Sacramento with her young son and friends found herself confronted by law enforcement officials. Three park rangers, one sheriff's deputy, and three park employees including the general manager surrounded her in public. They told her that there had been a complaint about using the women's restroom. The sheriff, referring to her as "a guy in drag," accused her of lewd conduct for entering the women's restroom and ordered her to leave the park. Informed that her driver's license identified her as "female," the sheriff insultingly remarked, "Whoever issued you your driver's license didn't check you out good enough." All this transpired in the public eye, and in front of her son and her friends. She was then ejected from the park. A lawsuit is being considered.

TG MURDERED IN HAWAII

We've received reports of another brutal TG murder, this time in Hawaii. The victim, Thomas Hall, 33, has been described as a "transvestite" in the press. However, such reporting is notoriously unreliable. Witnesses testified to having seen Hall with 22-year-old serviceman Anthony Briscoe shortly before hearing Hall screaming, and seeing Briscoe's car at the scene. Police said Hall suffered facial and head injuries from being beaten with a brick, and died the following day. Briscoe has been arrested and charged with second-degree murder in the case. If convicted, Briscoe will face a mandatory life sentence with the possibility of parole.

CD TEACH COMES OUT ON JOB

The transgender movement seems to be gaining ground all over, as reflected in courageous individual acts of gender transgression. In Santa Rosa, CA, a 58-year-old math teacher and father of 10 came out on the job and wears a dress to class every day. Diane Giles began dressing full-time in women's clothing this past summer, with wife Anne's support. Diane visited her family in Quincy, IL, and attended her 40th high school reunion in a dress. According to the *Southern Voice*, Diane's wife said "I've known about it all the time we have been together. I'm glad the hiding, the worrying, and the concern for the mental health of Diane is over. This is the person she is." School administrators are reported to have said that Giles can teach in a dress as long as it does not interfere with "his" duties.

DRESS EARNS SOPHOMORE SUSPENSION

In Burlington, VT, a young man has caught the national spotlight by insisting on his right to wear a dress to high school. Matt Stickney HAS been physically assaulted, suspended from classes, and for a time went into hiding. He became the focus of intense media coverage as the drama of his cause caught popular sentiment. After running away from home, Matt has been remanded into state custody. His foster parents are reported to be less than fully supportive of his right to wear a dress. The Transexual Menace plans a Burlington demonstration in support of Matt, under the guidance of the local queer organization OutRight Vermont. Meanwhile, Matt is pursuing legal redress with the help of the American Civil Liberties Union in Vermont.

TG TIME

It's finally happened. The New York *Times*, that venerable and most highly respected of all daily publications, has placed its stamp of approval on the TG movement. In an article on September 8, the *Times* defined transgenderism and outlined the TG movement as a struggle for respect and protection by persons who are not necessarily categorizable as 'he' and 'she.' The article, instigated by Riki Anne Wilchins working with guidance from Robert Bray of NGLTF, finally legitimizes the TG movement in a world-class forum.

PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH CONSIDERS TS ORDINATION

Erin Swenson is a family therapist and transsexual ordained as a minister in the Presbyterian church in 1973 as Eric. A year ago, Erin attempted to have her ordination affirmed in her new identity by the Presbytery of Greater Atlanta, GA, the local governing body for the Presbyterian Church (USA). Although the Atlanta presbytery's Committee on Ministry recommended affirming the ordination, the presbytery declined the ministry committee's recommendation. After some members said the matter had theological implications that would resonate nationally, the presbytery sent the request back to the

committee for further study. The Committee on Ministry recommended approval for a second time September 11, and Erin's effort to have her ordination affirmed will again come before the Atlanta presbytery again on October 22.

DISABLED TG TERRORIZED

Phillida Hutcheson, a TG person who has been confined to a wheelchair for many years, has been terrorized by a series of attacks on her home near Atlanta, GA. The attacks began with phone calls, then a brick was thrown through her upstairs bedroom window. These were followed by more calls, more bricks, and even a bottle rocket. Reportedly, the Douglas County Sheriff's Department has been reluctant to classify the attacks as hate crimes, and is dragging its feet on an investigation. Hutcheson had never experienced problems in her ten years in the town, and speculates it may result from her firing a neighborhood man who had done some yard work for her. "It takes a cowardly bastard to do this to someone who can't even get out of the way," she says.

WOMEN'S GROUP FOUND ANTI-TS

Last year, TS activist Margaret Deirdre O'Hartigan filed a discrimination complaint against Seattle Bisexual Women's Network. Ms. O'Hartigan made the complaint after repeatedly being denied participation in SBWN meetings because she is TS. At the time, the director of Seattle's human rights department sided with SBWN and denied Ms. O'Hartigan's complaint on the grounds that her TS status created "no probable cause" for complaint. However, in a significant victory for the right of a TS to be be accepted as the gender with which they identify, the human rights department's appeals committee has unanimously overruled its director.

TG PARENT SEEKS NORMAL CUSTODY

The Missouri Court of Appeals will soon hear the case of a transsexual seeking custody of her two sons, age 9 and 6. The children's father, Sharon, underwent SRS and has been living as a woman. In 1995, a county judge granted the wife primary physical custody, with weekend temporary custody and some small unsupervised visitation for Sharon. There was a highly questionable element to the ruling, however, one not normally imposed on parents. According to the ruling, Sharon could not cohabit with a transsexual or sleep with another woman during those visits. Sharon seeks to eliminate such restriction, as she has apparently been lucky enough to find a TS partner. Sharon's former wife seeks to deny visitation and temporary custody of their children. This might be an opportunity for ICTLEP to do some more good.

TS WOMAN SUES U.K. FOR FATHERHOOD

A transsexual woman took Britain to the European Court of Human Rights to win recognition as father to the child of her long-time female companion. The child was born in 1992 through artificial insemination. Apparently the Registrar General gave the father's name to the child but refused to recognize and register her role as father to the child. The European Commission of Human Rights, which screens cases for the Strasbourg, French-based court, had declared the case admissible. The court will deliver its verdict at a later date.

ACADEMICS DISCOVER TG "ADMIRERS"

Researchers at Toronto's Clarke Institute of Psychiatry identified a distinct psychological group of men who are sexually attracted to CDs and TSs. Ray Blanchard, head of clinical sexology at Clarke, said these men, called gynandromorphophiles, are more common than is generally believed. Blanchard and his research team reached their conclusions by analyzing a TS voice mail service. While admitting the research is "primitive," Blanchard concluded these are masculine heterosexual men seeking to play a dominant role with those they perceive as men who dress and act like women but retain their male genitalia. Of course, CDs and TSs have known this for years.

COURT RULES F2M MARRIAGE A DECEPTION

In England, a TS man has had his marriage declared null and void by a Court of Appeal after his wife found out that he had been born female. They had been married 17 years. The wife's counsel claimed that their relationship was based on a "profound deception." The man had had mastectomy and hormones before he met the woman, and had apparently used an artificial phallus during intercourse, without her knowledge. He had never told her of his original sex/gender, and is reported to have now realized that it was a mistake not to have done so.

BAD NEWS AND GOOD NEWS FOR BRAZILIAN TS

Alejandra Sarda, from Buenos Aires, Brazil, sent the following out over the net: "The situation of transvestites and transsexuals in our country is desperate. They are arbitrarily arrested several times a week, forbidden to do any type of work except prostitution and harassed for doing it, beaten and verbally abused when arrested. There have been several deaths. In addition, a new pavilion was opened in the largest women's jail to accommodate transvestites who will be kept in jail 21 days for no crime other than being themselves, at police's will and with no judicial intervention. Further research is being done around that measure. A few facts: more than 40 trans-

vestites were murdered in Brazil in the last 4 years, a 43-year-old TS estimates she has spent a total of 6 years in jail during her life, and transvestites working in the street spend an average of 3 nights in police stations every week." Following a concerted effort by brave activists and their attorneys, on September 25 the Buenos Aires Statutory Convention passed a clause that repeals the Police Edicts that were the force's key weapon to arbitrarily detain young people, transvestites, gays, lesbians and prostitutes (among many others). When implemented, this edict assures that nobody can be arrested in Buenos Aires simply for being 'suspicious' or to check her/his police records.

IRON CURTAIN FALLS AGAIN ON TGS

Romania's Chamber of Deputies voted overwhelmingly in September to continue condemning homosexuals to prison for all consensual same-sex relations. It also voted to establish stiff new prison terms for members of gay associations. Homosexual relations are punishable by up to three years' imprisonment, and any organizing for gay rights is punishable by up to five years' imprisonment. The Chamber ignored appeals from Amnesty International, other leading organizations and hundreds of concerned individuals from around the world. Romania remains the only member of the Council of Europe prosecuting consensual same-sex relations. Other Council members—the Netherlands, the United Kingdom, and Denmark—have objected strongly to Romania's ill-treatment of gays and lesbians, which has worsened since the end of communist rule. Meanwhile in Bulgaria, police crushed the Bulgarian gay organization Flamingo this past July. The organization's offices were vandalized by forces from the district police station of Sofia, Bulgaria. The Flamingo Center, a publisher of gay and lesbian erotic magazines, was founded in 1990 and officially registered as a Bulgarian trade company in 1994.

TRANSPHOBIA = TRANSFEELINGS?

According to a study reported in *The Journal of Abnormal Psychology*, heterosexual men who say they hate gays are likely to have homosexual leanings themselves. The results support what has long been felt in the gay and lesbian community. The study also suggested that perhaps transphobia is linked to TG feelings. According to Henry E. Adams, research professor of psychology at the University of Georgia at Athens, who conducted the research, "These guys despise in others what they see in themselves."

TRANS VIOLENCE SURVEY

A nation-wide survey of violence against TGs has been launched by GenderPAC. It is available as an insert in many leading publications, at conventions, and on the World Wide (wait) Web, at http://www.cdspub.com/srvy.html. Survey results will be helpful in lobbying for legislation to provide protection for TG folk. This survey was developed in coordination with the Gay & Lesbian Anti-Violence Project, or AVP, a national group which pioneered research and advocacy services for gender and queer people. People unable to access the Web can get a survey via e-mail by contacting Ms. Lombardi at CherRed@En.Com, or via snail-mail by sending a SASE addressed to: Ms. Emilia Lombardi, GenderPAC Research, 291 Grove St. #1, Akron, OH 44302.

VIGIL HELD FOR SLAIN TRANS

Recently, a dozen TG activists clad in Transexual Menace T-shirts held a vigil in front of the courthouse in Lawrence, MA, for murdered transsexual Debbie Forte. The demonstrators, holding signs and disarming passersby with smiles, were greeted by Debbie's sister Ellen, who gratefully thanked them, saying that they had made a huge difference with their presence. Local newspapers covered the event, reporting favorably on the action and the trial. The confessed murderer pleaded guilty in a plea bargain to second-degree murder, and was immediately sentenced to life with parole in 15 years. Forte's family and friends were satisfied with the outcome and relieved at having been spared a potentially nasty trial ordeal.

MORE CITIES JOIN TRANS RIGHTS BANDWAGON

The Cambridge Human Rights Commision unanimously endorsed an amendment to the Cambridge HR Ordinance providing protection from discrimination on the basis of gender. For the amendment to become law, it must be approved by a vote of the Cambridge City Council. A vote is expected by year's end, and a majority of city councilors have already agreed to vote in favor of the amendment. The amendment (penned by this author) adds "gender" to the list of protected classes (sex, race, religion, etc.). It also defines gender as "the actual or perceived appearance, expression, or identity of a person with respect to masculinity and femininity." Since the ordinance provides for the establishment of same sex facilities such as dormitories, the amendment also defines 'same sex' as "occupying the same social and identity roles as another with respect to being male or female." This could constitute the first time that a definition of sex based on something other than physiology becomes law. Meanwhile San Francisco, believed to be home to about 6,000 transsexuals, is considering broadening municipal employees' insurance to cover sex-change operations.

(Nancy R. Nangeroni is host of Boston radio's Gender Talk, *heard weekly on WBR. Ms. Nangeroni can be reached via: NINJA DESIGN nrn@world.std.com, 617-497-6928, 276 Pearl St, Unit L, Cambridge, MA 02139-4716.)*

Research Projects

Being Conducted by Sheila Kirk, MD

The Adolescent Teenage Study

Young males ages 12-19 years who crossdress could be candidates for a longitudinal study examining their transgender feelings and behavior. It is necessary that either a parent, guardian or counselor or both give permission for inclusion in the study for without express allowance nothing can be exchanged with that young person. In this study, Dr. Kirk makes inquiry into the life and habits, the goals and experiences, of this young person trying not to influence, but being available to advise patients and the professional when asked for information.

Every Transgendered person was a teenager and every one of us had the "burden" of being a crossdresser as well. If you know of a teenager who is able to participate in this valuable research project, please contact Dr. Kirk for more details.

Androderm Patch Study

There is available a new mode of skin testosterone transfer therapy that needs study in Female-to-Male Transsexuals. Dr. Kirk will work with the participant's physician for information exchange once the F-M individual is on the patch. She will not, however, participate directly in the individual's care. A special protocol will be put in place and the individual should be prepared to cooperate with the procedures within it. No remuneration or free medication is offered. If you are interested in participating in this worthwhile study to assist in gathering important research data to aid the Female-to-Male population while benefiting from this new therapy, please contact Dr. Kirk.

Male-to-Female Postoperative Survey

Sheila Kirk, MD, has originated a detailed survey for Male-to-Female Transsexuals who are postoperative six months or more. The information sought is most important in order that both the professional community and the transsexual community learn about areas of experience in the life of the postoperative person—areas that heretofore have not been studied appropriately or to any extent. Medical reports will be meaningful because of this research. All post-operative M-F individuals are urged to contact Dr. Kirk for information with a willingness to participate.

A Call for Health Care Professionals

To help improve the quality of transgendered care, Dr. Kirk maintains a nation-wide referral list of health care professionals (physicians—family practice, internists, endocrinologists; surgeons—in all specialties of surgical care; mental health providers—social workers, psychologists, psychiatrists) who demonstrate a high level of knowledge, expertise and commitment.

If you know of such a health care professional, please send their name and area of special care to Dr. Kirk. It is important that you get their permission for their referral.

Contact Dr. Kirk by mail, enclosing a stamped, self-addressed envelope to participate in this project or with specific questions regarding your medical concerns.

Sheila Kirk, MD
P.O. Box 38114
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Extraordinary Lives

A Personal History of the F2M Movement
Where have we been? Where are we going?

R. Scott Gerdes

Part II

I found my brother in there,
Deep in my heart.
Toad the Wet Sprocket (1995)

Though it may come as a surprise to many people, especially M2F transsexuals, it was a female-to-male who promoted the coining if the term "transsexualism" in the early 1950s. Writing of a F2M transgendered person he was working with, Dr. D. 0. Cauldwell described his patient's condition "psychopathia transexualis."

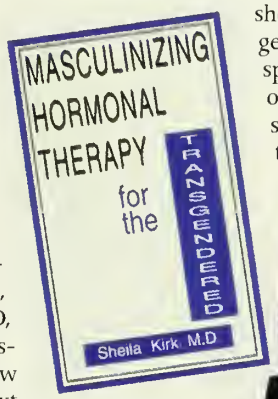
Dr. Cauldwell created the word because he needed a medical term to classify the girl whom he described as "prepossessed with being a boy." Then in 1953, the infamous Harry Benjamin, MD, PhD, changed Dr. Cauldwell's term to "transsexual" during a lecture before the New York Academy of Medicine. Over the next roughly 20 years, Dr. Benjamin was the major force behind supportive medical research and education efforts, and the key American figure who sparked the interest of others in the medical and psychological fields to take the concerns and needs of the transsexual seriously.

It was an F2M who filled a need that others before him could not, and that was money. Using his own riches, Reed Erickson founded the Erickson Educational Foundation, which funded the first international conference on "gender dysphoria." In 1967, he supplied grant money for the establishment of the first gender program in our country at Johns Hopkins University.

But trailblazers such as Benjamin and Erickson didn't really have the impact on mainstream society in the way that cross dressers, gays and lesbians did with Stonewall in the '60s. Benjamin and Erickson took their concerns and objectives to the professional community, whereas Stonewall's protesters reached every major paper and television set in the country.

The first American transsexuals to achieve public prominence were M2Fs—Christine Jorgensen in the 1950s and professional tennis player Renee Richards in the 1970s. The shockwaves these women created may finally be dying down, but are still felt.

Since society's first real taste of the transgender community was full of media-hyped mud-slinging during Stonewall, it isn't any wonder that transsexuals, in general, ran for cover. Of course, some of today's popular talk show hosts treat transgender topics with respect and with an air of intellect. But many still do not, and continue to exploit the gender community to get a rise out of people and out of their ratings.



It's no wonder, then, that many transsexuals (F2M and M2F) still run for cover. Why take the risk? they reason. You're already taking plenty of chances by just being transsexual, even without other people knowing about you.

The passionate musings of "transgressively gendered" author and performance artist Kate Bornstein in her book *Gender Outlaw* echo the "meek as lambs" attitude of many who have trouble dealing with their own gender identity, let alone society's cruel perceptions of them. "I fought so hard against being transsexual," she writes, "because I heard all the teasing and jokes in the locker rooms. I saw people shudder or giggle when they'd talk about Renee Richards or Christine Jorgensen. I was all too aware of the disgust people were going through when *Playboy* published its interview with Wendy Carlos. I watched Caroline Cossey (Tula) get dragged through the mud by the press on two continents. The lesson was there time after time. Of course we were silent."

Within the transgender community, the term "transsexual" has had its share of critics in recent years. With more and more discussions and research regarding biological gender and gender identity, many now reserve the word "transsexual" or "TS" for those who want or have had sex reassignment surgery. The now popularized and more generally accepted umbrella term "transgender" is used to describe the entire community at large.

continued on page 42

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen
James Green

Counseling and the Married Crossdresser

How Therapy Can Help CDs and Spouses

Niela Miller

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

Of all the problems that beset the TG person, probably one that creates the most pain has to do with relationships and how gender identity issues affect the couple. The first issue to be faced is what and how to tell the partner.

If a male-to-female CD is in a relationship with a woman, he can experience a major struggle with regard to whether and how to tell her. What will her reactions be? What should he do about them? What are her rights and needs? What are his rights and needs? (The challenges facing female-to-male CDs can be similar.)

Some people live for years with a partner without telling them about this most important part of their existence, therefore living what is, essentially, a duplicitous life. Often, the husband seeks counseling, thinking that he is only going to be talking about himself and his own situation. However the counselor or therapist says, "How does your wife figure in all this?" Client and therapist then have long talks about why keeping the woman in his life uninformed doesn't work in the long run, unless he wants an extremely superficial marriage.

Early in the relationship he may have made some attempt to talk to his spouse about crossdressing, hinted around, or even made an outright confession. She may, in the initial confession, threaten him and say, "If you ever do this again, I am going to leave you." So he goes underground; he doesn't talk about it. Or both of them go into denial and live as though neither one of them knows, until some later incident makes her recognize that the behavior has not disappeared. Then, years later, the subject comes up again, and now has to be dealt with.

The ultimate revelation often takes place because the man has a crisis of conscience and realizes that, for his own peace of mind, he must talk to her. He can't hide the truth any longer.

Sometimes the man desperately wants the woman to find out, but is afraid of telling her. So he "unconsciously" leaves some evidence around which she then finds. She may discover a bag of clothes in the car, or a false fingernail on the sink, or something stashed away in the attic that doesn't belong there. So

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Transition Not Therapy

The Role of the Counselor in SRS

Carl W. Bushong, PhD, LMFT

During my years of work and study with gender folk, I have consistently been surprised and amazed at both the depth and breadth of change that has occurred during transition. And when I say transition, I am not just speaking of individuals described (either by themselves or by others) as "transsexuals," but also "crossdressers, transvestites, transgendered people, etc."

I have gradually come to the conclusion that for most M2F gender folk, *the male persona is an artificial construction* produced by the early adolescent individual (age 12 to 15) in order to *fit in* and *be like everybody else*. For the F2M person, there is a separate and different, but still consistent pattern.

As I discussed in my article, "The Multi-Dimensionality of Gender" (issue #72), one's Gender Identity is only one of our five semi-independent aspects of gender (Genetic, Physical, Brain Sex, Gender Identity and Sexual Orientation). One's Gender Identity is established by, or shortly after birth, and is our *Self Map*. This internal map forms how we see ourselves as a sexual individual (our affiliation to a gender), just as Sexual Orientation is our Love Map, how we identify our love/sex partner.

When our gender Self Map does not match our Physical Gender, along with our society providing no niche or role (although *most* other societies *do*) for this varied gender expression, a conflict usually develops. Although gender folk combination of the five gender factors is just as *natural* as any other, it is not perceived as "normal" (what you are *supposed* to be or do) in our society.

Because children's greatest desire is to be normal (like everybody else), they create an artificial self which meets this goal. They are often so successful at this that they not only fool everyone else, but themselves as well, at least part of the time, in some way.

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she confronts him with it. At first she may think that she has found evidence of an affair, but then the truth comes out.

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

What happens when the partner of a TG person finds out about the TG behavior? Betrayal is the major blow, not the phenomenon of the crossdressing itself, especially if the couple has been together for some time. The fact that this person, about whom they thought they knew everything and with whom they thought they had an intimate relationship, had not told them that a major portion of his psyche was preoccupied with femme matters is a great shock. If he lied about something so important, the wife reasons, what else is he covering up?

The husband typically tries to reassure her that he hasn't kept anything else from her (except, of course, his intense feelings). But it takes a long time for the trust to be built up again.

When a crossdressing male does decide to speak to his spouse about this important aspect of his being, the best approach is to create circumstances where neither of them will be interrupted, where they have privacy and where each person will be able to express feelings, ask questions and communicate as fully as possible about it. Often, even though it is difficult and painful to talk about, both people experience some relief that the truth is finally out where they can deal with it one way or the other.

The wife must be allowed and encouraged to give free rein to all of her feelings. The more she can do this with impunity, the more possibility there is for the couple to make a good adjustment later on. Be suspicious of a wife who appears to be totally supportive and delighted with the whole thing immediately. Often, when the novelty wears off, these women's feelings change and they become angry or withdrawn. Encourage her to get to her questions and possible problems with her husband's gender expression early on.

When I speak to wives, I make the point that the TG is not the only person with rights, needs, and concerns in that relationship. The wife is allowed to have concerns, to set limits, to have boundaries, and to say what she can and can't handle, just as he is able to do those things. The woman needs to stand up for her own needs and rights in a marriage.

Many of the older couples with whom I have dealt come from the 1940s and 1950s form of marriage in which the man is in charge and the "little woman" supports him and helps him meet his needs; her responsibility has been simply taking care of him and the children. The concept of marriage has changed since the women's movement. In a modern marriage, the partners need to be able to deal with each other as equals and see each other's needs as equally important. This can create some tension in a gender-challenged couple.

Women, especially, need to be gently confronted on taking their own needs seriously and being able to express their fears, so that they can figure out how they want to deal with this issue. They need to identify what seems impossible for them to handle right now. They need time to learn to keep track of the way they are changing and growing, and to better understand their own secret desires, fantasies, and wishes.

The partner of a CD does have the right to set certain limits and to make certain requests to get her own needs met, just as her partner does. If true caring exists in the relationship, each will come part way to meet the other's needs, or respect the other's limits without trying to control the other's behavior.

Ultimately, couples need to work with the gender issues themselves. It is important to define specific problems rather than generalize. A new client may tell me "This gender thing is killing me. I can't do anything right. My wife just doesn't like anything I do."

I will ask, "Specifically, what doesn't she like? What gives you trouble?" We get down to details, such as her repulsion with his long fingernails, or dislike of his leg hair removal, or fear about going to a local mall where one might be recognized.

The counselor can't be of much help until specific concerns are identified. Therapists should try to make sure each partner knows what issue they are dealing with, and keep the focus on that particular issue before moving to another one. Don't try to throw everything into the same pot. What you'll get is a stew.

It takes a secure, self-confident woman to be able to put up with all the different mind-sets and feeling states of the CD. She may need individual counseling and support throughout this exploration. Sometimes it's difficult to figure out what's going to satisfy each of them without the other person having to make major lifestyle changes in order to accommodate the partner. But with careful and specific agreements which get reviewed from time to time, it is possible to work through these challenges.

Another big issue is that a wife's sexual mythology about her husband is disturbed when he admits that he wants to wear women's clothes, that he gets sexual and erotic satisfaction from wearing them. The man to whom she was initially sexually attracted and who matches her fantasies of who attracts her, turns out to be a different kind of man from the one now presenting himself to her.

Some CDs want to wear an article of women's clothing to bed, or to include crossdressing in their sex life; others want to keep it completely separate. The latter does not pose much of a problem since he, himself, has strongly identified with his male role as a sex partner.

If the wife keeps imagining the husband dressed when he is not, that becomes a problem of her own making. You can help her separate her fantasy from reality. If he does express some interest in dressing in the bedroom, she now may face a real struggle if she is strongly heterosexual. She is not interested in making love with a feminized man.

He, in the meantime, may fantasize when they are together stead-

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nce created, gender folk live in this role, a 3-D personality with its own goals, likes and dislikes, values, hobbies, etc. Although indistinguishable from the "real thing," it isn't who they are. It is an artificial creation for them to be able to *fit in*. But, as the nagging reality of the deception becomes harder and harder to suppress, one has to express their *true self* somehow, in some way.

For most, dressing is the obvious compromise. If one cannot *be female*, one can at least express femininity. But the more one expresses one's true self, the desire for more becomes greater. Some individuals continue expressing themselves more and more, others panic and purge, only to start again later.

While all gender folk need to transition, not all (or even the majority) need to use hormones, let alone have surgery. The only person who truly knows where and how far to go is the transgendered person, themselves. But, even they cannot do it alone. When you have spent decades fooling everyone, including yourself, it is difficult to tell what is true and what is smoke and mirrors. As we need a reflection to see our own face, we need a knowledgeable, experienced helper to see our true self.

How does one find such a helper? With great difficulty, I'm afraid. In my opinion, a psychotherapist's role is to be a helper, a teacher, and a guide. To help the transgendered with those areas and conflicts resulting from a lifetime of living a double life; one inside or hidden from others, one out in public. The therapist needs to be a teacher in making available all the accumulated knowledge, skills and choices one has, as well as clearing away the myths, lies and misinformation. And as a guide, the therapist aids the client through the social, legal, medical and emotional mine fields toward their *new self*. Here are some *must haves* you will need to find in your helper.

1. Is your helper knowledgeable and up-to-date about transgender needs and problems?

2. Has your helper previously helped *at least two* other people transition *successfully* before you?

3. Is your helper knowledgeable about electrolysis, hormones, surgery, transgender law, etc., to guide you through your transition?

4. Does your helper know and understand the difference between transitioning and psychotherapy.

5. Last but not least, does your helper have working relationships with other knowing, experienced and successful practitioners such as electrologists, endocrinologists, surgeons, attorneys, etc.

While gender folk have problems and need psychotherapy, and marriage and family counseling like any other group, transitioning, itself, is *not* psychotherapy. *Transitioning is being given the tools and knowledge to ask the questions whose answers set them free.* The old artificial male persona falls away piece by piece, revealing underneath a brand new self. The new self may be female, just more feminine, or even much the same! Whatever transitioned people may appear to others, to themselves they are happy, and sometimes for the first time, whole individuals.

I am pleased to say that those who have stayed to complete their transition with me have *all* become both happy people and very happy with their decision to transition. Never have I had so many people use the word "giddy" to describe themselves and their new life.

What, you may ask, about the Harry Benjamin International Gender Dysphoria Association (HBIGDA) Standards of Care and a diagnosis? I feel that the *Standards of Care* is a guidebook, not a rule book. If a transgendered individual is seeing a therapist or practitioner who has little or no knowledge of gender folk, their needs, problems and lives, I believe the *Standards of Care* is very important to use as a guide for their *physical* transition. But, if a therapist is both very knowledgeable and experienced in dealing with gender folk, the Standards of Care can often be unnecessarily rigid and handicapping. I have had people come to me at all stages of physical transitioning (physical transitioning is only a part of transitioning) from 100% male (or female) on the outside to dressed as their true gender after a year or more of hormones, etc. To hold both individuals to the same program would be both foolish and harmful. Each of us is an individual and must be treated as such for the best results. And as far as a diagnosis is concerned, I see it only as a needed requisite for medical intervention. As transitioning is more than physical change, what is it? Basically, transitioning has three main parts;

1. *Recognition that one's Self Map is different from one's Physical Gender.* This can take the form of seeing one's self as a "woman trapped in a man's body," a need to express one's "feminine side," etc. This stage is mainly concerned with physical/surface changes such as crossdressing, passing, makeup, wigs, etc. In this first part, many gender folk don't even venture from their own home and often have a juvenile (before age 15), and, later, an adult phase. The so called "Primary Transsexual" is an individual who never constructs a male persona and therefor never accepts their male genitals or challenges their female Self Map.

2. *Accepting one's Self-Map.* This stage is more varied than the first and consists of changing one's life to fit one's Self-Map. These changes may only involve bringing one's significant other and loved ones into their dressing behavior and expanding their activities or starting hormones, electrolysis and public dressing. One develops a "comfort level" with one's Self-Map and its conflict with their male persona and insists others respect them for what and who they are as they accept and learn to respect *all* of themselves.

3. *Becoming one's True Self.* This is the last, but unfortunately least experienced part of transitioning. This is the stage when that little child trapped inside an artificial persona in order to fit in breaks free, grows up and has their own life, often with markedly different values, temperament and interests.

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TG Performers and Personalities in the News

TRANSPEOPLE

TRANSGENDER ROCK & ROLL. Some people have been wondering about the pounding that can be heard every Sunday night coming from the basement of the IFGE offices in Waltham, Mass. No, it isn't our not-so-red-headed Editress-in-Chief beating her head against the wall. It's Transgressions, the TG community's newest, and from what we've heard, one of the best transbands. Transgressions was a triumph at its first booking (reputedly before an audience of gay and lesbian psychics, who apparently foresaw that the band would be a hit). It's hardly surprising that Transgressions is proving such a success in the Beantown area. The roster of players reads like a Who's Who of the local trans-community: writer, poet, pornographer, Raven (He-man) Kaldera; activist and talk show hostess, Nancy (the Gabe) Nangeroni; Tiffany Club director of publications and editress-about-town, Brenda (the Blond Bombshell) Burke; cartoonist and game designer Gina (Hotstuff) Kamentsky; entrepreneur and small-business maven, Valerie (Magic Fingers) Allen; roady and back-up singer, Karen (Anything Goes) Martin; plus all-around den mother and kitchen-wizard, Bella (the Kitchen Goddess) Kinney-Kaldera. Hottest song so far details the evolution of a TS who grew up yearning to be "genetic" but now has learned to celebrate their transgender nature and "don't want to be genetic no more." Future play dates include Fantasia Fair and a semi-permanent gig at that infamous local bistro, Jacques. Now if some enterprising record executive is just reading this column...

Photo: Mariette Pathy Allen

OH, MAN! F2Ms, kwh'rames, Drag Kings and butch women...worried about passing? Then there is news for rejoicing! Diane Torr is here with her "Drag King Workshops"! The exclusive focus is GGs who "want to try on male guise," "dress like a man" and/or "enter the male domain." Participants learn "basic male behavioral patterns," like how to walk, talk, sit, use space and pick up objects like a man. Most importantly, they acquire the ability to assume the importance men feel is their natural "birthright," which Torr says can be of untold value to women in everything from career advancement to getting respect at a repair shop. Torr puts her claims to the test. Each Drag King workshop ends with a trip, en homme, to a public place, often a sports bar or men's clothing store. It should be no surprise to readers of this publication that Torr's workshops are standing room only to GGs throughout the U.S. (principally New York), Europe and Canada. With audiences that large, it's clear that it's not just F2M TSs who want to learn how to pass. There are far more female CDs than anyone, perhaps even the F2M CDs themselves, ever dreamed of until Dian Torr came along.

BY GEORGE! If you are an M2F CD or TS, does this sound familiar? "I was only eleven...but I put Mum's makeup on, blue and green eye shadow, salmon lipstick... I wanted girl's shoes, cork platform slingbacks... I wanted bright colors, rainbow tank tops, red velvet split-knee slacks, a sky blue satin jacket... I found an all-in-one silver Lurex catsuit. I wanted to waltz into the street. Dad objected. The catsuit disappeared." It's a scene any M2F could identify with. It's also a passage from the early pages of Boy George's new autobiography, *Take It Like a Man*. Dad may have made that catsuit disappear, but he couldn't do the same for his off-spring's desire to don feminine finery. The Boy went on to become one of the most successful of a long line of gender-bending rockers, in the tradition of Little Richard, David Bowie and Alice Cooper. He/she also had some highly-publicized ups and downs, from records that bombed to drugs to enough sexual escapades to fill a dozen Harold Robbins novels. Along the way, he seems to have picked up a bit of wisdom and renounced many of his earlier excesses. Perhaps, instead of titling his book, *Take It Like a Man*, something like *Boy into Man* would be more appropriate.

DON'T CRY FOR ME, AFRIKANERS. Looks like Evita is all set to lead her people out of misery again. Not Evita Peron nor even Madonna. This Evita is neither a dictator's mistress or a musical superstar. She's a South African drag queen. Luckily for her, that nation's post-apartheid constitution is one of the few that grants rights to homosexuals. Most surprisingly, she's a talk show interviewer with "the journalistic clout" of Barbara Walters and the political chutzpah of...well, equivalents are hard to come by. The creation of satirists Pieter-Dirk Uys, Evita debuted in the late '70s at the height of apartheid. Uys' aim was to provide common ground for both sides through humor. As a comedienne and DQ, Evita was able to pass off remarks that would have earned anyone else jail time. "It was like doing a tango in front of a firing squad," Uys told one reporter. Evita became so popular she garnered her own televised interview series, chatting up, among others, current SA President Nelson Mandela. Uys is considering bringing Evita to the U.S. soon. And there's at least one worry he's spared. He needn't fear his Evita will announce pregnancy in the middle of the production.

TG Performers and Personalities in the News

TRANSPEOPLE

QUADRUPLE THREAT WOMAN. Sometimes it seems like the farther out of the closet some TG people come, the more successful they are. Take the Washington, DC area's Cheryl Ann Costa, who puts the concept of a "triple-threat man" to shame. *Working Girls*, a free-form radio chat show, with Ms. Costa as writer and co-star, has been a big hit on WMET for over two years. Now Cheryl Ann is branching out as a playwright. Her one-act TG dramedy (drama-comedy), *The Berdache*, recently premiered at Maryland's Silver Spring Stage theater. Costa's tale instantly garnered positive critical attention and a nomination for the statewide Maryland One Act Competition. *The Berdache*, tells of a modern M2F shaman, a lapsed Catholic novice, later inducted into the Berdache tradition, who applies for readmission to the monastery. In addition to doctrinal questions, the priests express concern because they see the Berdache as a woman now, and the nuns are concerned because they view the Berdache as still being a man. The somewhat incredulous questioning of those charged with evaluating this most unorthodox candidacy, and the Berdache's answers, offer food for thought, along with much bathos and pathos. Though the production proved a triumph, the road to success was unusually rocky. When it came time to audition the title role, only one TG actor showed up, and he was forced to drop out of the play due to personal problems. Then the producers tried two women in the part. But it was decided that only a TG male who can pass for female could really put the role over with an audience. To save the show, the producers persuaded Ms. Costa to take the part (under her Cassandra St. John pseudonym), a position she had been avoiding, due to modesty and the press of her other enterprises.. Worse was to follow when the production's director also had to bow out due to personal problems. It was too late to bring a new director on board, so the producers again turned to the one person who knew the play best: its playwright, again hiding modestly behind the nom de plume Cassandra St. John. There's real inspiration to run right out and put your own trans dreams into action. Here's more inspiration: In addition to the awards run-off, *The Berdache* is slated for presentation at the prestigious National Theater. Don't count it out for Broadway, either. When a quadruple-threat transwoman, 1) radio star, 2) playwright, 3) stage performer, 4) director), like Cheryl Ann Costa gets going, anything is possible.

Photo: Courtesy Cheryl Ann Costa

COUNT ON HER. Recently TG rock and roller Jayne County landed in Boston, one of the regular stops on her U.S. tours, where she was photographed by *Transgender Tapestry* Art Director and hunk, Mykael Hawley. Ms. County, who has experienced greater musical acclaim in the U.K. and Germany, currently lives in London, returning to "the states" every year or so for a quick series of East Coast playdates. A post-operative "new woman," Jayne used to bill herself as the first transsexual country and western singer. However, her current musical endeavors sound a great deal more like punk than C&W (and considering rock's long history of TG performers, perhaps the change is appropriate). The enthusiastic audiences who appear at Ms. County's unique TG performances and purchase her new CD, *Transgender Rock and Roll*, is several decades younger than the star herself. Asked to explain her cross-generational appeal, she attributes it to the fact that "the TG message is very ancient and our society is just waking up to it." Jayne believes her message is similar to Kate Bornstein's. "You don't have to fall into this stereotype of what people think your transgenderism is. There are different levels. People try to put you into a specific category. There have to be more divisions." Ms. County's current plans include touting movie studios on the audience potential for a film version of her autobiography, *Man Enough to Be a Woman*. She sees Courtney Love in the part, although she would prefer "a real TG person." Hey girl! If you're looking for the perfect person to play a TS rock and roller, try looking in the mirror, why don't you?

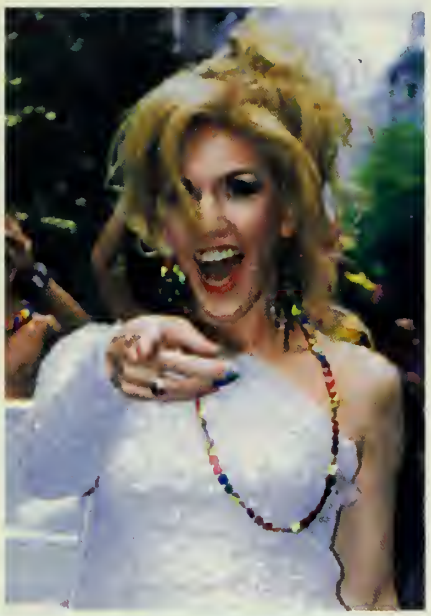
Miss Emi, Jayne County, Mykael Hawley
Photo: Jeanette Hawley

JAPAN'S IDEAL MAN. That's right, you guessed it. The perfect man, so far as Japanese women are concerned, is a woman! They are all *otoko-yaku* (women playing men) and members of the Takarazuka Review, Nippon's female musical-theater troop. Heavily pompadored, with huge painted eyes and perfectly drawn lips, *otoko-yaku* woo women they way they want to be seduced. These F2M actors dance flamboyantly sexy tangos and sing of undying love in manly baritones, doing it all with a grace, suavity and style real men rarely, if ever, possess. No wonder, the Takarazuka Review and its *otoko-yaku* are sensational hits. Over 2.2 million women attend performances every year. *Otoko-yaku* are as popular in Japan as sports and movie stars here. Becoming a member of the Takarazuka Review is a guaranteed ticket to future success. Members and former members are everywhere: In ads, on television, even in parliament. Guess there's some inspiration for members of the American Boyz, FTM International and the Transmen's Network.

TG Acceptance and You!

THE BIRDCAGE

Commentary By Allyson Ann Allante



Queen Allante in 1996 Stonewall Parade.

One of the top-grossing (over 100 million and counting) films this year is..... (drumroll)...a mainstream, highly entertaining, political satire, *The Birdcage*. It's about a star TG (notice the capital "T"), Nathan Lane, as Albert/Starina, the boa-clad, drag headliner/heroine. Along with Robin *(Mrs. Doubtfire)* Williams, they portray an overboard (but never bored), happy, loving, humorous, wholesome, long-lasting gay couple. TGs have once again advanced their status and cause as this *Birdcage* couple are viewed as likable and sympathetic, and especially as acceptable.

Birds of a Feather was, understandably, the original working title of the film. Set in South Miami Beach, the plot (is there anyone out there who doesn't know by now) centers around two, mature gay men — one of whom has a 21-year old son from a prior marriage, who is "...going to the chapel and gonna get married..." to an "actual" girl! The other partner is an out-going, sensitive, somewhat campy and dramatic, drag queen.

In order to present the image of a normal man-woman couple for their son's pending and very conservative in-laws (Gene Hackman and Diane Wiest), Albert/Starina pretends to be his partner's wife, "Mrs. Coleman." The farce that follows is dee-lite-full. Posilutely everything works out wonderfully *a la* Joe E. Brown and Jack Lemon in *Some Like It Hot*. And, yes, Albert and Armand actually do kiss. It is that R-E-A-L.

Birdcage is a remake of the 1978 French film, *La Cage Aux Folles*, which proved an enormous hit in its native country, around the world and in the U.S. *La Cage* was so successful it even had a sequel. Later still (1984), for its third incarnation, it was transformed into a fabulous Broadway Tony Award-winning musical. The fact that audiences were ripe for a remake is a tribute to the growing acceptance of TGs all over the world. Also, the current generation of movie-goers are more open, more educated, less bigoted. They've also seen, and many have learned to love, Ru Paul, Dennis Rodman, and other TG celebrities.

Birdcage makes the case for same-gender marriage and is proof-positive that any relationship with a TG can work. Photo courtesy: United Artists

The main point and the bottom line is that audiences will shell out multi-millions of dollars to see quality films about positive TG characters *(Birdcage, To Wong Foo, Priscilla)*, stories (*Stonewall, Ed Wood*) and events (*Wigstock). The* silver lining to this beautiful mosaic is that typically the following formula prevails: awareness + understanding = tolerance.

Politically speaking, and TG issues, as Riki Anne Wilchins says, are frequently political, *Birdcage* is *prima facie* evidence for the case of same-gender marriages. It is equally proof positive that any relationship with a TG person, CD, TS, DQ, DK or whatever, can succeeed if it is treated honestly, respectfully and lovingly by both parties, whether the partners are of the same or the opposite sex works.

If *Birdcage* has any deeper meaning, perhaps it is that the time has come to clean out the cage and give the bird (British for girl) some fresh water and a fresh breath of air. Does this mean come out and be proud? Of course, it does! So, if you haven't seen *Birdcage*, check it out on video, or better yet, get gussied up and see it in a theater. Either way, realize and appreciate the very symbolic general public acceptance of the transgender phenomenon (and YOU) this film represents.

(Allyson Ann Allante is President of the Imperial Queens & Kings of New York. She can be reached via this publication or c/o IQ&KNY, 70-A Greenwich Village Av., #120, New York NY 10011; (212) 229~1 968/627-1969.)

Tapestry: The Early Years 1987-1995

Merissa Sherrill Lynn

Over the years, two of the most common comments I heard about the *TV/TS Tapestry Journal (now Transgender Tapestry)* were, "I wish I had found the *Tapestry* sooner," and, "I wish the *Tapestry* was around when I was first coming out." So did I. In 1975, the year I emerged from my closet, there was no publication like the *TV/TS Tapestry Journal*. Without reward, I scoured every potential source I could think of: libraries, adult bookstores, newsstands, and avant garde publications. There was no publication that addressed my issues, or had any dignity, that could tell me about myself, or help me make contact with others. There was nothing. I found plenty of masturbation rags, such as the glossy *51% Female, Female Mimics*, and the Eros "Goldstripe" publications, they were primarily for the cock n' frock crowd, and not for me.

My first breakthrough was in a sleazy bookstore called Peter's Palace, located on a damp back street in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, across the street from historic Strawberry Bank, a block from the aging Piscataqua River bridge and the Navy Yard. The transvestite literature was on a crude plywood book rack located in the back, just past the peep show booths with their groaning patrons.

On a spindly wire bookstand, I found a 5½" by 8" randomly stapled newsletter called *The Lips of Frances*. Despite its strange name and articles that reeked of paranoia, it was non-sexual, talked about men called Barbara, Judy, Pamela and Kay, and mentioned a group of crossdressers located somewhere north of Boston. It didn't say where, or how to get in touch with them, but at least there was hope. Further exploration turned up a newsletter for the UTTS (United Transvestite Transsexual Society), published by a crossdresser named Suzie Collins, in New Jersey. At first I thought I had found something, but it was primarily for sexual encounters, and kept making references to a thing called the *Female Impersonator (FI) News*. I found the *FI News*. Yuk! I kept looking.

One spring day in 1975, I turned on the television to catch the weather report, and accidentally found the *People are Talking* talk show interviewing a crossdresser, Ariadne Kane, and a therapist, Deborah Feinbloom. Ari was dressed in a frumpy brown granny dress, complete with a white lace chemisette and black cameo, but it didn't matter. Ari was articulate, and conducted herself with some skill. At last, there was someone, no matter how badly she was dressed, I could relate to. They were on television to promote a book Deborah had just written about a social club in Boston. When they flashed the telephone number, I nearly dislocated my shoulder reaching for the telephone. With a tingling soreness in my shoulder, I called the Gender Identity Service of Boston, and told them I didn't really have a problem, I just didn't know anybody. They, in turn, sent me to the Cherrystone Club of Boston.

Cherrystone was a small but lively group consisting of an eclectic collection of interesting characters. Among others, this collection included Barbara, a pre-op transsexual, Judy, a cross-dressing yacht builder, Pamela, a gay Methodist minister, and Kay, an ex Special Forces shoe fetishist, all mentioned in the *Lips of Frances*. It was as though I had acquaintances before I even began.

Best of all, Cherrystone had a library as diverse as its members. Unfortunately, it consisted mostly of things like *FI News* and *Female Mimics*, but there were other publications that I had not seen before. One was

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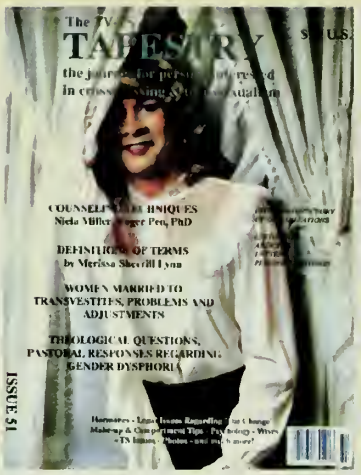

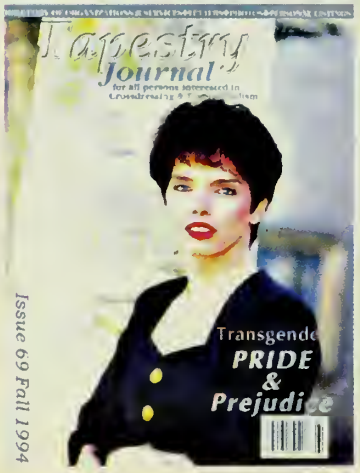

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Transgender

Directory of Organizations & Personals

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Help Us Help You and the Entire Transgender Community!

The International Foundation for Gender Education is the oldest and largest non-profit organization serving the transgendered community.

IFGE efforts include:

Twelve-hour-a-day hot-line for CD, TS, F2M, M2F, and other TG individuals;

Educating members of the TG community, the general public, media, and elected officials about crossdressing, transgender, and transsexual issues;

A mail-order, on-line and walk-in bookstore devoted to TG books and tapes;

Educating medical, psychological, and psychiatric health workers and other providers about gender issues;

Outreach and referrals for individuals and organizations within the TG community;

Monitoring and publicizing legislation that affects the TG community;

Providing legal, medical, and theraputic referral;

Funding for research, educational, and community projects;

Free mailing of event and product information for other non-profit TG groups;

Financial and/or strategic support for the Congress of Transgendered Organizations, the New Women's Conference, the Spouse & Partners International Conference for Education, the International Conference for Transgendered Law & Employment Policy, the International Congress on Crossdressing, Sex & Gender, etc.;

A library, resource center, and archive.

IFGE depends on memberships for a significant portion of its income. **If you have an interest in gender issues,** *please join.* **IFGE is a registered 501 (c)3 non-profit organization. And our members receive special benefits like: a quarterly newsletter presenting news of IFGE and the community, voting privileges, and a 10% discount on IFGE books and the products of more than two dozen vendors.**

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Transformations

Making Up Isn't Hard to Do

By Jon Davis and Bill Hubert

The 6 Most Frequently Asked Questions About Make-up

1) How do I know which color of foundation is best for me?

One of the best ways to check for color matching is to apply a small amount of the foundation to a small patch of skin on the top of your hand (or if you have the extra time and privacy, apply the foundation to your jaw line) and blend. If you see more foundation color than skin color, then the foundation is too dark (or too light). This will lead to a visible line of color demarcation on your face and neck. Try another color or shade until the foundation color seems to blend and disappear into your natural skin color. Neutrals or beiges are best for most people, but try some warms and cools, too, until you find the one that works best with your natural skin tone.

2) What type of foundation should I use?

Most M2Fs tend to use the same types of cosmetics they grew up watching the women in their lives use, and this includes liquid foundation. Let's face it, most of us need more than just a light coat of make-up. Unless you have had extensive electrolysis, or were lucky enough to be born with an extremely light beard, you will find that you need a heavier foundation, like a cream or a pan stick (a heavier creme that comes in a convenient stick form we recommend to most of our clients). In some cases, for instance with acne or other light scarring, a camouflage cream and setting powder should be used.

3) What can I do to hide my 5 o'clock shadow?

The answer to this one depends on how heavy your 5 o'clock shadow is. For most people, a good concealer and a couple of extra coats of foundation over the beard area may well do the trick. For others with a heavier growth, a beard-cover or camouflage cream and setting powder may be needed. If your beard is heavier, apply a thin amount of your beard-cover over the same area you would apply shaving cream to. At the same time, cover any small scars or blemishes that may be visible. This may also be done over just the mustache and chin growth areas for additional coverage if you think your beard requires it. Smooth the product out with your finger tips, using downward strokes. Then apply your foundation and blend, blend, blend.

4) How do I know if I have too little or too much make-up on?

Your finished appearance should be as natural looking as possible. If you end up seeing some darker hairs in your mustache or sideburns area or even your chin or neck, it means that you haven't applied your foundation properly or heavily enough. Remember, you need to use extra foundation and powder on your beard area, but not so much as to look as if you have it caked into your face. The harsh fluorescent lighting in many stores and other public areas will accentuate the crease lines that will eventually develop in your foundation as the night wears on if it was applied too heavily. So, it's largely a matter of practice and observation on your part as to how much is too much. The people you encounter should not notice how *much* make up you have on, they should notice how beautiful the make-up makes you appear. The same is true for the eye area, the lips and cheeks. They should notice your eyes first, not your eye make-up, and the lips and cheeks should look as good up close as they do at a distance. The *key* is *blending*.

5) How can I apply my blush to make it look like my cheek bone and not like war paint?

Look directly into the mirror and suck in your cheeks. Study the area along the cheek bone and find the outermost part of the side of your face. It will be against the hairline where the top of the ear joins the face. You can use the handle of your blush brush to first follow the cheekbone from this point down towards the bottom of the nose. Your blush line should not extend past the middle of the eye. Then, using your blush brush, apply color (I recommend using earthy colors rather than bright for added subtlety) by gently pressing your brush onto your cheekbone using short, upward strokes. Blend thoroughly and apply a light dusting of powder. This makes the blush appear on the outermost part of the face, which is where it should be. Do not take the blush above this line.

6) How can I keep my lipstick fresh looking, without it bleeding out or getting all over my teeth?

This is where your lip liner will come in handy. Using the color of your choice, draw your line in the bow of your top lip first, using clean, even lines, or short dot-like strokes. Then draw the bottom lip line, being careful to keep the lines even. Follow this step by connecting the bow line to the outer corners of your mouth, again being careful to create an even, natural looking line. Next, finish up by adding lip color using your lip brush (or lipstick) to fill in the lines you have drawn. When done, always blot your lips with a tissue to remove excess product and achieve a softer, smoother appearance.

Jon Davis has been an active crossdresser since he was a teenager. With Bill Hubert he started Transformations Make-up & Hair, with simple plans for writing their own make-up guide based on Jon's knowledge of contouring make-up and his philosophy that any man can be made to appear attractive and passable through the proper use of cosmetics. If you have questions you would like to see addressed here, or if you have a personal question they can help you with, drop them a line at P.O. Box 3406, Austin, TX 78764 or e-mail them at transform2@aol.com. Be sure to ask for their free catalog!

Accessories

In Fashion

Carolann Gillard

Yes, it's really true what they say. You CAN take a simple black dress and accessorize it in many different ways. For example, check out this list of items that can be used to change the look of a frock.

Scarves.

An essential item in your wardrobe. Scarves can be used to hide a neck that needs to be hidden, highlight a waist, change the neckline of a dress or suit. Because this is a relatively inexpensive item, you can buy them in different styles and colors, and experiment. Some of the ways they can be used: tied at the neck, cowboy style; used as a blouse, pinned under a blazer or suit worn as a dramatic bow; used as a soft belt; wear a large one as a shawl; find a glittery one and wear it instead of a necklace; wrap it around your head as a hat.

Belts.

If you have a great waistline, show it off! If not, you might want to skip to the next item. A few variations: basic, dark-colored standard belts that will match lots of outfits; soft, fabric belts, often dress, with glitter and pearls; usually stretchy wide, dramatic ones that 'make' the outfit.

Vests.

A great item for your wardrobe. They range from short, to-the-waist sexy numbers, to flowing, cover-the-figure-flaw items. Popular this year are the openwork, knitted ones, usually in basic white, beige or black. A favorite casual choice for fall or winter is a suede or leather vest. Some other choices: outrageous, fringed numbers that can turn you into a cowgirl; soft, velvet ones to dress up a simple dress; long, flowing vests, the same length as your dress.

Hats.

Not only do hats accent an outfit, they hide a 'bad hair' day! Examples: wide-brimmed, floppy garden party styles; soft tams (you don't even need to do your hair!); brimmed, felt hats in lots of colors to match your outfits.

Purses.

There's a purse for every occasion. It's important to match the style of the purse to the outfit, and the purse must be large enough to fit all the essentials that you'll need to take with you. A few variations: small, jeweled, beaded for evening wear; tailored bags in soft leather for everyday with suits and dresses; big-as-a-breadbox ones for "go everywhere" days.

Collars.

Yes, collars! Big, splashy sequined ones to throw over that simple dress; smaller pearl collars to change an entire look; soft, fuzzy animal prints an in-style look this year.

Glasses.

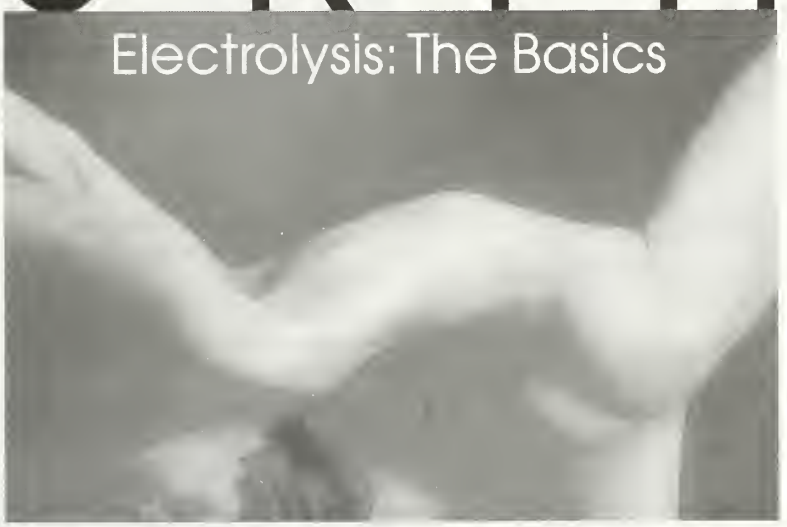
Don't forget this important accessory! When choosing glasses, make sure the style matches your personality. The design should complement your facial structure, choose colors that blend with most of your outfits.

And we haven't even begun to deal with 'traditional' accessories—necklaces, earrings, rings, and pins, costume jewelry, fine gems, sterling silver, collectibles, antiques. They will be the subject of my next column!

Carolann Gillard owns and operates Model's Resale, a gender-friendly fashion women's clothing and jewelry boutique. Of herself, she writes, 'I love fashion; probably as much as you do! More to the point, however, fashion IS my life. (Yes, it really is!)' She can be reached via this publication, or at Model's Resale, 969 Concord St., Framingham MA 01701 (508) 875-9094.

Skin

Electrolysis: The Basics



Linda J. DeFruscio R.E., R.I., P.M.E.

During the past years of writing for Transgender Tapestry, *readers from all over the world have written to me with questions. Certain basic questions, which almost everyone curious about this topic seem to ask, have emerged. Those questions and my answers follow.*

What causes hair growth?

Normal biological changes or fluctuations in hormone levels at puberty, pregnancy, menopause or heredity, medications, stress, dysfunction of the endocrine system such as irregular menstrual cycles, ovarian disorders, thyroid irregularities and idiopathic hirsutism.

Is electrolysis safe?

Yes, electrolysis is the only medically-approved method of permanent hair removal. It is approved by the American Medical Association (AMA) and the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) of the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) .

Is electrolysis permanent and how does it work?

Electrolysis is the only method of permanent hair removal. It was first developed in the United States in 1875 and later modified in France. A professional and skilled electrologist inserts a fine probe along side the hair in the hair follicle. Then a small amount of electrical current or heat is applied to destroy the hair papilla (root) so each hair can then be easily and permanently removed. You will be saving hours and expense spent over a lifetime using temporary methods—shaving, waxing, bleaching, creams, depilatories—because electrolysis removes hair permanently.

Does electrolysis hurt?

Sensitivity levels vary from one individual to another. You will feel a warm tingling sensation that compares to a mosquito bite. Some areas of the body such as the upper lip, can be a bit more sensitive and electrologists can apply a mild topical cream to soothe the area. If you feel extra sensitive, ask your doctor to prescribe Emla cream 5% (a topical anesthetic). Areas that some patients apply this to are the upper and lower lip, eyebrows, neck and bikini line. Emla cream is usually applied to the skin 60 minutes prior to treatment under a plastic wrap. The average pain reduction is 50%. Several patients find electrolysis quite comfortable without topicals, and even fall asleep during treatments.

Will electrolysis scar?

When treatments are administered by a competent electrologist, as is the case in my office, there are no permanent side effects. There may be a slight reddening of the skin from 10 minutes to 30 minutes after treatments. However, after we apply a cover-up lotion, one can seldom tell they have just had a treatment. Defective equipment can cause excessively high electrical current resulting in scarring. I have seen several poorly treated patients. These signs have included hyperpigmentation or skin discoloration, and tissue damage, and improperly removed black, dead hair root tips. It is imperative to be selective of your electrologist. Not all are the same. Look for sterile, disposable probes, a sanitary atmosphere and proper licensing (registered electrologist or R.E.) or certification (certified professional electrologist or C.P.E.), or ask your dermatologist or plastic surgeon for a referral. Above all, your friends may be able to tell you of the success of their beard removal and recommend an electrologist.

How long will it take to remove all my facial hair and how many treatments are typically needed?

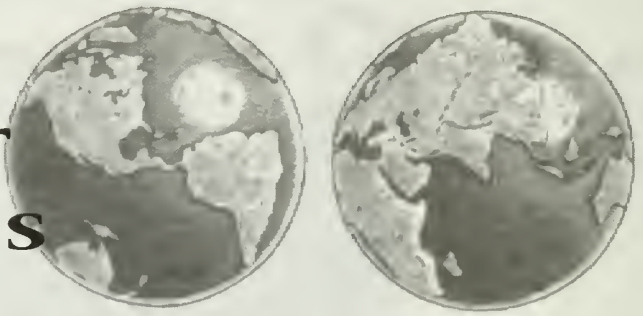
An electrolysis treatment program can be provided by the electrologist upon your first visit to meet your individual needs. Due to the fact that hair grows in cycles and doesn't all appear on the skin surface at the same time, a series of treatments is necessary. Certain factors must be taken into consideration such as age, heredity, hormonal imbalance, medications and temporary hair removal methods (tweezing, depilatories, etc.) to determine the number of treatments required. The number of hair follicles per square inch and the sensitivity of the skin are leading factors to determine how long the treatments will take. Most patients start with a weekly session of 15-60 minutes for four to six weeks. After each electrolysis treatment, about one-third of the hairs that were treated are permanently gone, while the other two-thirds return finer and softer, with a gradual thinning out. Extremely coarse hairs or distorted hairs could take up to five treatments for elimination. Due to the cycle of hair growth, treatment may be required every other week, then once a month or less, and eventually hair is permanently gone. Based on my 20 years of experience with facial hair and a large number of completed cases, I would make the following estimates of total time required:

Light beard—up to 80 hours
Medium beard—80-120 hours
Heavy beard—120-200 hours
Extremely heavy beard—200-300 hours
Very rare cases—400 hours

For best results in beard removal, I think a patient should have one to three hours of treatment each week for the first year. On a medium beard, 50-60 hours, is about the half-way point of completion. The closer you adhere to a systematic and thorough program, the sooner you will see permanent results and complete beard removal.

(Linda DeFruscio, R.E., R.I., PME., owner, A & A Electrolysis and Skin Care Associates, 815 Washington Street, Newtonville, MA 02160 (617) 964-l000. Questions are welcomed by phone or letter.)

Directory of Transgender Organizaions



Updated October, 1996

All listings are sorted by zip code.

All groups are non-profit and non-sexual in nature unless otherwise noted. All information shared is confidential.

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Key	
OPEN TO ALL CROSSDRESSERS (CD)	TV
TRI-ESS - HETEROSEXUAL CDs & Family	TRI-S
OPEN TO ALL TRANSSEXUALS	TS
FEMALE TO MALE TRANSSEXUALS ONLY	FTM
SIGNIFICANT OTHERS' SUPPORT	SO

Support Groups & Helping Professionals

INTERNATIONAL/NATIONAL

FTM - AMERICAN BOYZ: Gary (410)392-3640. E-mail: f2m-admin@tantalus.clark.net.

AMERICAN EDUCATIONAL GENDER INFORMATION SERVICE, Inc.: AEGIS, PO Box 33724, Decatur GA 30033-0724. Ms. Dallas Denny, MA, Licensed Psychological Examiner (TN). (404)939-0244 helpline, FAX (404)939-1770 E-mail: aegis@mindspring.com. Educational, mental health services and support group.

FEMALE-TO-MALE INTERNATIONAL: FTM, 5337 College Avenue, #142, Oakland CA 94618. Education, outreach.

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON TRANSGENDER LAW AND EMPLOYMENT POLICY: PO Box 35477, Houston TX 77235-5477. Annual conference on transgender legal and policy issues.

INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION FOR GENDER EDUCATION: IFGE, Box 229, Waltham MA 02154-0229. (617)894-8340 FAX (617)899-5703. E-mail: ifge@world.std.com. Education, outreach.

DEAF/HARD OF HEARING/SI - JESS: (202)547-9524 (tdd only). E-mail: 11mtanzar@gallua.gallaudet.edu.

NATIONAL GAY AND LESBIAN TASK FORCE: 2320 17th Street, NW, Washington DC 20009-2702. (202)332-6483 extension 3301, FAX (202)332-0207, TTY (202)332-6219. It is impossible to list all the gay and lesbian support groups. Write NGLTF for a referral to someone near you.

OUTREACH INSTITUTE OF GENDER STUDIES: OIGS, 126 Western Ave, Suite 246, Augusta ME 04330. Ariadne Kane, MEd, Director (207)621-0858. Programs for professionals.

RENAISSANCE EDUCATION ASSOCIATION: 987 Old Eagle School Rd., #719, Wayne PA 19087. (610)975-9119 (24 hrs). Email: angela@ren.org. Educational outreach and support group.

SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF (TRI-ESS): PO Box 194, Tulare CA 93275. Email: TRISINFO@AOL.COM Educational outreach and support group for heterosexual crossdressers. Write for referral to local chapter.

SPOUSES/PARTNERS INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE for EDUCATION: SPICE, c/o P. Rudd, PO Box 5304, Katy TX 77491. Annual conference for partners of gender-gifted males.

TRANNSEXUALS IN PRISON: c/o Roni Lynne Soubrette, 104 Quineveree Ct., Castle Rock WA 09611. Support group.

LOCAL

MASSACHUSETTS
(010-027)

CD/TS/SO - SUNSHINE CLUB: PO Box 564, Hadley MA 01035-0564. Support group. (413)-584-1487. E-mail: ae907@yfn.ysu.edu, an3131@anon.penet.fi

TS-FTM/SO - EAST COAST FEMALE-TO-MALE GROUP: PO Box 60585, Florence Station, Northampton MA 01060. Support group.

JOSEFINA A. SPECKERT, MEd: 100 Wendell Avenue, Suite #302, Pittsfield MA 01201. Psychotherapist. (413)499-5858.

CD/TS - BERKSHIRE ALTERNATIVES: PO Box 508, North Adams MA 01247. Support group.

CD/TS - THE MYRIAD NETWORK: PO Box 288, Williamstown MA 01267. Support group.

TS - ASSET (After Surgery Support for Transsexuals): ASSET, PO Box 3121, Greenfield MA 01302. Email: asset@crocker.com. Support group.

PEOPLE SYSTEMS POTENTIAL: Niela Miller, MS, LCSW, PO Box 132, Nagog Woods MA 01718. (508)264-4565. Supervision for mental health professionals. Non-insurance counseling.

THE CONSULTANCY FOR CHANGE: Clyde Hilburn, MSW Candidate, PO Box 191, Ashland MA 01721. (508)435-6656. Psychotherapist.

NEW HORIZONS COUNSELING: Roger N. Millen, PhD, 9B South Commons, Lincoln MA 01773-1114. (617)259-1617. Psychotherapist.

DIANE ELLABORN, LICSW, NASW, Diplomate in Clinical Social Work: 187 East Commonwealth Road, Wayland MA 01778. (508)653-0107. FAX (508)788-7761 Psychotherapist.

TS - MERISSA'S SUPPORT GROUP: (508)358-5919. Support Group. First Sunday of month, 6-10pm in Wayland, Massachusetts.

CD/TS/SO - TIFFANY CLUB OF NEW ENGLAND, INC.: TCNE, PO Box 2283, Woburn MA 01888-0483. (617)891-9325 (answered live Tuesdays 7:00-10:00pm ET). Support group.

SO - TIFFANY CLUB WIVES' SUPPORT GROUP: c/o TCNE, Inc., PO Box 2283, Woburn MA 01888-0483. (617)891-9325 (answered live Tuesdays 7:00-10:00pm ET). Support group.

CD/TS - REFLECTIONS: PO Box 4002, East Dedham MA 02026. (617)323-6528. Support group and other services.

TS/TG - GENDER SUPPORT SERVICES FOR TSs (GISST): (617)227-6216. Support group for TS/TGs with addiction issues. Meets in Boston.

FTM - ENTERPRISE: PO Box 629, Jamaica Plain MA 02130. (617)983-3264. FTM support group.

ELKE U. O'DONNELL, PhD: 43 Roberts Road, Cambridge MA 02138. (617)441-9300. Psychotherapist.

THESEUS COUNSELING SERVICES: Ari Kane, MEd, Gender Specialist, PO Box 390861, Cambridge MA 02139. (617)868-3157 Psychotherapist.

SOCIETY OF CROSSDRESSING HARDWARE ENGINEERS: SCHE, 276 Pearl Street, L, Cambridge MA 02139.

F2M - THE OFFICERS' CLUB: 123 Moody St., Waltham MA 02154. (617) 683-1095. Support group.

CHRISTINE BECKER, LICSW, BCD: 341 Marrett Road, (Rt 2A)Lexington MA 02173. (617)862-6170. Psychotherapist.

TS - GETTING REAL: PO Box 194, West Newton MA 02165. Support group.

DENNIS PEARNE, EdD: Consultations: 9 Alexander Ave, Belmont Ctr., Mailing: 133 Grove St, Watertown MA 02172. (617)484-0013. Psychologist.

CD/TS/SO - AXA: PO Box 38-0547, Cambridge MA 02238. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - INNVESTMENTS: PO Box 2194, Orleans MA 02653. Support group.

NEW HAMPSHIRE
(030-038)

WRITERS ETC.: c/o Abby M. Greene, PO Box 6211, West Franklin NH 03235. (603) 934-3379. Support group.

NANCY STRAPKO, PhD: PO Box 157, Plymouth NH 03264. (603)536-1306. Psychotherapist.

CD/TS/SO - GENDERTALK NORTH: PO Box 211, Keene NH 03431. (603)924-8828. Support group.

CHESHIRE COUNSELING: 104 Cross St., Keene NH 03431. Ken DeVoid, EdD. (603)357-5544. Psychotherapist.

G/L/Bi./T - SEACOAST OUTRIGHT: PO Box 842, Portsmouth NH 03802. Phone: (603)639-6095. Resource, referral, support.

MAINE
(038-047)

CD/TS/SO - TRANSUPPORT: Box 17622, Portland ME 04112. Support group.

OUTREACH INSTITUTE OF GENDER STUDIES: 405 Western Avenue, #345, Portland ME 04330. (205)775-0858. Education, referrals, outreach.

MAINE GENDER RESOURCE AND SUPPORT SERVICE: c/o Jean Churchill, PO Box 1894, Bangor ME 04402-1894. (207)945-3092. Education, referrals, outreach.

VERMONT
(050-059)

CD/TS - VERMONT TRANSGENDER SUPPORT GROUP: For information leave message at (802)860-8430. Support group.

CONNECTICUT
(060-069)

W. RILEY SNOW, MD: 1001 Farmington Ave, Suite 302, Bristol CT 06010. (203)582-1178. Psychiatrist.

CD/TS/SO - CONNECTICUT OUTREACH SOCIETY: COS, PO Box 163, Farmington CT 06034. (203)657-4344. Support group.

TS GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC OF NEW ENGLAND: 68 Adelaide Road, Manchester CT 06040. Clinton R. Jones, Director, (203)646-8651. Medical and psychological services.

TS/SO - XX (TWENTY)CLUB: PO Box 387, Hartford CT 06141-0387. Support group.

TS/SO - IMAGES: PO Box 666, Thompson CT 06241-0666. (203)779-9708 voice and FAX. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - P I GROUP: PO Box 245, Haddam CT 06438-0245. Discreet photo, video, scanning and desktop publishing services.

CD - connecticuTView: PO Box 2281, Devon CT 06460. Email: Mason D@aol.com. Newsletter and directory.

NEW JERSEY
(070-088)

TRI-S - SIGMA NU RHO: SNR, Box 1092 St. Georges Avenue, Box 234, Rahway NJ 07065-2664. 24-hour hotline (800)480-3152. Support group.

CD/TS - JUMPSTART CABLE: PO Box 622, Paramus NJ 07653. Support group.

TRI-S - CHI DELTA MU: PO Box 1, River Edge NJ 07661-0001. (201)439-9618. Support group. Internet: cdm@carroll.com

CD/TS/SO - MONMOUTH/OCEAN TRANS-GENDER: PO Box 8243, Red Bank NJ 07701. (908)219-9094. Support group.

CD/SO - EAST COAST COUPLES NETWORK: ECCN, c/o MOG, PO Box 8243, Red Bank NJ 07701. Support group.

CD/TS - NORTHERN NEW JERSEY: c/o Ms. Lynda Frank, PO Box 9192, Morristown NJ 07960. (201)663-0772. Support group.

CD/TS - SOUTH JERSEY/SHORE AREA CHAPTER: Renaissance SJ, PO Box 189, Mays Landing NJ 08330. (800) 480-3152. Support group.

CD/TS - RENAISSANCE: New affiliate starting up in Titusville area. Contact Terri Risley, (609)933-2233.

NEW YORK
(090-149)

CD/TS/SO - CDI/NY: c/o Fem Fashions, 9 W. 31st St, Suite 7R, New York NY 10001. (212)570-7389. Support group.

CD/TS - TRANSGENDER RIGHTS! (TGR): (212)979-8547. Political action group.

CD/TS/SO - IMPERIAL QUEENS & KINGS OF NY, LI, NJ, CT & PA: 80 Eighth Avenue, Suite 301, New York NY 10011. (212)229-1968 days, (212)627-1969 evenings, (201)584-7644. Open social group.

TS - GENDER IDENTITY PROJECT: Lesbian and Gay Community Services Center, 208 West 13th Street, New York NY 10011. (212)620-7310. Support group.

CD/TS - **METROPOLITAN GENDER NETWORK:** 561 Hudson St, PO Box 45, New York NY 10014. (201)794-1665 ext. 332, (718)461-9050. Support group.

BI-GENDER SELF-HELP GROUP: meets 2nd Monday each month, 6-8 pm in lower Manhattan. Contact: Lynda Frank, (212)765-3561.

TS - **THE F2M FRATERNITY:** PO Box 509, Lenox Hill Station, New York NY 10021. (908)298-8797 Marty Kincaid, or (212) 570-1260 Kit Rachlin. Support group.

EDWARD S. CHESLOW, MD: 107 West 82nd Street, New York NY 10024. (212)362-0449. Internal Medicine, Board Certified.

CD/TS - **EULENSPIEGEL SOCIETY:** Box 2783, Grand Central Station, New York NY 10163. (212)388-7022. B&D-oriented support group.

TS - **METAMORPHOSIS:** PO Box 6260, Broadway Station, Long Island City NY 11106-0260. (718)728-4615. Support group. Psychotherapist.

CD/TS/SO - **GIRLS' NIGHT OUT:** G.N.O., c/o Barbara Fortune, PO Box 350369, Brooklyn NY 11235-0007. (201)794-1665, ext 2021. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **NEW YORK GIRL & PARTNER:** PO Box 456, Centereach NY 11720. (516)732-5115. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **HEMPSTEAD HOTLINE:** (516)485-6400.

CD/TS/SO - **HUNTINGTON HOTLINE:** (516)549-8700.

CD/TS/SO - **MIDDLE EARTH HOTLINE:** (516)679-1111.

CD/TS/SO - **LONG ISLAND FEMME EXPRESSION:** LIFE, PO Box 3015, Lake Ronkonkoma NY 11779-0417. (516)283-1333. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **TRANSGENDERISTS' INDEPENDENCE CLUB:** TGIC, PO Box 13604, Albany NY 12212-3604. (518)436-4513 live Thurs. 7-9 p.m. or leave a message and instructions for calling back. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **TRANSGENDER NETWORK:** PO Box 1611, South Rd Annex, Poughkeepsie NY 12601-0611. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **EXPRESSING OUR NATURE (EON):** Address invalid. Support group.

TRI-S - **LAMBDA CHI LAMBDA** : PO Box 1010, Cooperstown NY 13326. (607)547-4118. Email: StuComOne@aol.com Support group.

TS - **BUFFALO TRANSITION SUPPORT:** c/o Vicki, PO Box 320, Buffalo NY 14220. (716)629-5421 (leave number, caller will say they received message). Formerly Crossroads of Buffalo.

TRI-S - **NU PHI CHI-BUFFALO BELLES:** P.O. Box 1701, Amherst NY 14226-1701. (716)643-2626. Support group.

LAWRENCE KRIEGER, ATTORNEY: 1 E. Main St., Suite #400, Rochester NY 14614. (800)719-3260, (716)325-2640, FAX (716)325-2646. Gender-friendly law office. Free 1/2 hr consult readers *Transgender Tapestry*.

CD/TS/SO - **ROCHESTER CD-NETWORK:** PO Box 92055, Rochester NY 14692. (716)251-2132. Support group.

PENNSYLVANIA
(150-196)

TS - **TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP:** TSG, 6020 Penn Circle South, Pittsburgh PA 15206. (412)661-7030. Support group.

PERSAD CENTER, INC.: 5100 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh PA 15224-1616. Randal G. Forrester, James Huggins. (412)441-0857. Mental health services.

CD/TS - **TRANSPITT:** PO Box 3214, Pittsburgh PA 15230. (412)224-6015. Support group.

FTM - **PITBOYZ:** Dan & Michelle. E-mail: windyl@aabe.com.

FAMILY - **TRANSFAMILY:** c/o Deni Scott, 962 Rockdale Road, Butler PA 16001. (412)758-3578 (Janet). Email: dscott@pgh.net. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **OASIS:** PO Box 622, Meadville PA 16335. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **ERIE SISTERS:** ESCC, 1903 West 8th Street, Suite 261, Erie PA 16505. Email: eriesister@aol.com. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **RENAISSANCE - LOWER SUSQUEHANNA VALLEY CHAPTER:** Renaissance - LSV, PO Box 2122, Harrisburg PA 17105-2122. (717)780-1578. Support group.

FTM - **LANCASTER BOYZ:** Tom (717)892-4999. E-mail: malesic@prolog.net. (Philadelphia area.)

CD/TS/SO - **CROSS DRESSERS INTERNATIONAL:** CDI, PO Box 61, Easton PA 18044. S. Kristine James, Director, Karen Cioe, NYC Coordinator. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **NE PA TRANSGENDER ALLIANCE:** Lehigh Valley. (610)821-2955. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **RENAISSANCE - GREATER PHILADELPHIA CHAPTER:** Renaissance PHL, PO Box 530, Bensalem PA 19020. (610)975-9119. Support group.

TS - **PHILA. TS SUPPORT GROUP:** PO Box 15839, Philadelphia PA 19103. (215)567-7879. Support group.

TS - **POSITIVE CHANGE:** c/o Pequin Place, 201 S Camac St., Philadelphia PA 19107. Joanna Sands (215)732-0603. Support group.

FTM - **PHILLY BOYZ:** Steve (215)546-6444. E-mail: shock@asc.upenn.edu. (Philadelphia area.)

UJIMA: Peer counseling, safer sex demos, and info materials for TG teens. Meets Wed. nights at 6:30 at 1207 Chestnut Street, 4th floor in Philadelphia.

DELAWARE
(197-199)

CD/TS- **TRANSSOCIETY SISTERS OF DELAWARE:** c/o Linda Marie, Ivy Hall, #6, Newark DE 19711. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **RENAISSANCE - DELAWARE CHAPTER:** PO Box 5656, Wilmington DE 19808. (302)995-1396. Support group.

WASHINGTON, DC (200-205)

CD/TS - **WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE ALLIANCE:** c/o R. Lewis, PO Box 50724, Washington DC 20091-0724. (301)277-5475. Support group. Meets in Baltimore.

FTM - **DC BOYZ:** Adam (301)270-0372. E-mail: romandede@aol.com. (Metro DC.)

CD/TS/SO - **TRANSGENDER EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF GREATER WASHINGTON:** TGEA, PO Box 16036, Arlington VA 22215. (301) 949-3822. Support group.

MARYLAND (206-218)

CD/TS/CD - **THE CLUB VICTORIA:** Box 682, Bowie MD 20718. (301) 805-2255. Support group.

COUNSELING FOR RELATIONSHIPS: Rusty Lynn, LCSW, Pastoral Counselor, 4835 Del Ray Avenue, Bethesda MD 20814. (301)652-6448. Psychotherapist.

CD/TS/SO - **TRANSGENDER SUPPORT GROUP OF BALTIMORE:** c/o GLCC, 241 W. Chase St., Baltimore MD 21201. (410)837-5445, or switchboard 7-10pm (410)837-8888. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **TRANQUILITY (Renaissance affiliate):** c/o GLCC, 241 W. Chase St., Baltimore MD 21201. Support group.

SEXOLOGY ASSOCIATES,INC.: H. Martin Malin, PhD, 2114 N. Charles Street, Suite 3, Baltimore MD 21218. (410)528-1638. Psychotherapist.

BALTIMORE BOYZ: Mary (410)837-8888, Gary (410)392-3640.

COUPLES' GROUP: Maureen Carlson or Tambrey Zang (301)977-2403.

CD/TS - **WASHINGTON-BALTIMORE ALLIANCE:** c/o H. Garfinkle, PO Box 1994, Silver Spring MD 20915. (301)649-3960. Support group. Meets in Bethesda, Md.

CD/TS - **TRI-STATE TRANSGENDERED CLUB:** c/o Diane Terrant, PO Box 3102, Deer Park MD 21550-1002. (301)453-3538. Support group.

VIRGINIA (220-246)

COUNSELING FOR RELATIONSHIPS: Rusty Lynn, BD, MSW, LCSW, 225 E. Broad Sreet, Falls Church VA 22046. (703) 532-8723. Psychotherapist.

CD - **BLACK ROSE:** PO Box 11161, Arlington VA 22210. (301)369-7667. Support group.

TS/SO - **METRO AREA GENDER IDENTITY CONNECTION (MAGIC):** MAGA, PO Box 16036, Arlington VA 22215. (301)949-3822. Support group.

TRANS-GENDER EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION: PO Box 16036, Arlington VA 22215. (301)949-3822. Support group.

ELLEN R. WARREN, LCSW: 1500 King Street, Ste 302, Alexandria VA 22314. (703)683-0710. Psychotherapist.

CD - **VIRGINIA'S SECRET:** PO Box 14716, Richmond VA 23221-0386. (804)262-3906. E-mail: vasecret@aol.com. Support group.

FTM - **VA BOYZ:** John (804)751-0584. E-mail: moojuu@gnn.com.

CD/TS.So - **BEACH BUNNIES:** PO Box 64121M, Virginia Beach VA 23467. Support group.

WEST VIRGINIA (246-268)

CD/TS - **THE VALLEY GIRLS:** TVG, PO Box 181, Dunbar WV 25064. Support group.

CD/SO - **TRANS-WV:** PO Box 2322, Huntington WV 25724-2322. Support group.

NORTH CAROLINA (270-289)

CD/TS/SO - **TRIAD GENDER ASSOCIATION:** TGA, c/o Louise Hahn, PO Box 26221, Winston-Salem NC 27114. (910)727-9661. Support group.

A CIRCLE OF CHILDREN: Rt 5, PO Box 564, Zebulon NC 27579. Chris Allen, (919)269-8698. Support group.

CD/TS - **GDANC SUPPORT GROUP:** PO Box 305, Salisbury NC 28145. (704)642 1914. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **CAROLINA TRANS-SENSUAL ALLIANCE:** PO Box 25347, Charlotte NC 28229-5347. (704)551-8838 (voice mail). Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **AGO:** 1235-E East Blvrd., Charlotte NC 28203. Alternative Gender-Oriented is group's full name.

TRI-S - **KAPPA BETA:** c/o Corresponding Secy., PO Box 12101, Charlotte NC 28220-2101. (704)565-5034. Email: Melissa Dixon, 72350.3156@compuserve.com, or Diane Jones, dajones@InfoAve.net. Support group.

TRI-S - **CHI CHI RHO-TRI-ESS:** Crystal Coast Rose, PO Box 733, Bridgeton NC 28519. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **PHOENIX TRANSGENDER SUPPORT:** Phoenix, PO Box 18332, Asheville NC 28814. (704)253-9882. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **LOUISE HAHN, MA, NCC LPC:** Wilmington, Research Triangle Park. (910)395-0772. Psychotherapist.

SOUTH CAROLINA (290-299)

PHOENIX THERAPY SESSIONS: 405 Pettigru, Greenville SC 29601. Carla Pridgen, (803)225-6938. Psychotherapist.

GEORGIA (300-319)

SARAH C. JAMES, CEI: Atlanta, Georgia. (404)622-1848. Electrology and counseling for transition.

MONTGOMERY MEDICAL & PSYCHOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, INC.: Montgomery Institute, PO Box 33311, Decatur GA 30033. Contact: Jerry or Lynn Montgomery. (404)603 9426. Mental health services.

TRI-S - **SIGMA EPSILON:** PO Box 272, Rosewell GA 30077-0272. (770)552-4415. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **AGE:** PO Box 77562, Atlanta GA 30357. (770)435-4203. Support group.

FLORIDA
(320-340)

CD/TS/SO - **GENDER INFORM NETWORK OF GAINESVILLE:** GING, Gail Driaper, (904)332-8178. Referrals.

CD/TS/TG - **PANTRA:** PO Box 3426, Tallahassee FL 32315-3426.

TRI-ESS - **TAU LAMBDA:** PO Box 3426, Tallahassee FL 32315-3426.

FLORIDA CHAPTER MONTGOMERY INSTITUTE, Inc.: PO Box 141133, Gainesville FL 32607. (904)332-6638. Referrals.

TRI-ESS - **PHI EPSILON MU/CENTRAL FLORIDA SISTERS:** PO Box 3261, Winter Park FL 32790-3261. (407)677-9540. Support group.

CD/TS - **BUTTERFLIES OF THE WORLD:** For information contact April-Lynne Fowler, PO Box 2782, Orlando Fl 32802-2782. (407)841-3125. Support group.

CD/TS - **FANTASIA:** c/o GLCS, PO Box 533446, Orlando FL 32853-3446. Arlena Parrish or Angela Wood, (407)425-4527. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **SERENITY:** PO Box 307, Hollywood FL 33022. (954)436-9477. Support group.

TS - **THE EDEN SOCIETY:** PO Box 1692, Pompano Beach FL 33061-1692. (305)784-9316. Support group.

LIBBY A. TANNER, PhD, LCSW, LMFT: 5901 S.W. 100 Terrace, Miami FL 33156. (305)665-4934. Psychotherapist.

ADELE KATES & ASSOCIATES, P.A.: 1 N.E. 168th Street, North Miami Beach FL 33162. Certified & Licensed Speech Pathologist, Adele Kates, Director. (305)651-6442

CENTER FOR CONTEMPORARY COUNSELING: 2999 N.E, 191 St., Suite 607, Aventura FL 33180. Coral L. Schlosberg, PhD, LCSW, LMFT, (305)936-8000. Psychotherapist.

CD/TS/SO - **ANIMAS:** PO Box 420309 Miami FL 33242. Support group.

GENDER CONGRUITY CENTER: 9960 Center Park Blvd. South, #404, Boca Raton FL 33428. (800)328-2633.

CD/TS/SO - **STARBURST:** PO Box 17411, Clearwater FL 34622-0411. (813)523-8760. Support group.

CD/TS - **TAMPA SISTERS:** TGIF, PO Box 272819, Tampa FL 33688-2819. (813)935-6848, Kimberly Westwood. Please leave contact information. Support group.

TAMPA STRESS CENTER: PO Box 273107, Tampa FL 33688-3107. Carl W. Bushong, PhD, (813)884-7835. Psychotherapist.

THE CONSULTANCY FOR CHANGE: Roger N. Millen, PhD, 304 16th Avenue, Indian Rocks Beach FL 33785-2824. (813)595-8457. Email: Tforchange@aol.com. Psychotherapist.

CD/TS/TG - **PATHWAYS:** PO Box 51462, Fort Myers FL 33905-1462. (941)693-1136. Support group.

A CLINICAL APPROACH COUNSELING CENTER, INC.: Coral Springs, Florida, Marcia L. Schultz, PsyD, Clinical Director. (305)345-2292. Psychotherapist.

ALABAMA
(350-369)

TS - **MONTGOMERY MEDICAL & PSYCHOLOGICAL INSTITUTE, INC.:** Montgomery Institute, PO Box 3361, Montgomery AL 35109. Jerry or Lynn Montgomery. (205)272 -2726. Mental health services/support group.

TRI-S - **SIGMA RHO GAMMA:** SERGA, PO Box 16174, Huntsville AL 35802. Michelle Steadman, (205)880-9660. Support group.

TRI-S - **SIGMA RHO GAMMA SOUTH:** SERGA, PO Box 66286, Mobile AL 36660. Lisa Jackson. Support group.

TENNESSEE
(370-384)

TRI-S - **ALPHA PI OMEGA:** PO Box 784, Brentwood TN 37204-0784. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **TENNESSEE VALS:** PO Box 92335, Nashville TN 37209. (615)664-6883 voice mail. Support group. E-mail:ttp://www.transgender.org/tg/tvals/index.html

GEORGE R. BROWN, MD: Department of Psychiatry, Mountain Home VAMC, Johnson City TN 37684. (615)926-1177, ext. 7709. Psychiatrist.

TV/TS - **TV/TS SUPPORT GROUP:** c/o Rev. John Prowett, 1517 Court Street, Suite 4, Memphis TN 38104-2402. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **MEMPHIS TG ALLIANCE:** PO Box 11052, Memphis TN 38111-0052. Support group.

MISSISSIPPI
(386-396)

CD/TS - **AURORA:** c/o Kim Brown, PO Box 1306, Florence MS 39073. (601)845-1328. Support group.

TRI-S - BETA CHI MISSISSIPPI: PO Box 31253, Jackson MS 39206-1253. Lee Frances, Secretary, (601)982-7678 (24 hrs). Support group.

KENTUCKY
(403-427)

CD/TS/SO - LOUISVILLE GENDER SOCIETY: LGS, PO Box 5458, Louisville KY 40255-0458. (502)368-9918, Janet, (502)635-7995, Patricia. Support group.

OHIO
(434-457)

CD/TS/SO - CRYSTAL CLUB: PO Box 287, Columbus OH 43068-0287. (614)231-1368. Email: cc@stargatge.com. Support group.

NORTH CENTRAL MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES: 1301 North High Street, Columbus OH 43201. (614)299-6600.

GLASS CITY SISTERS: PO Box 8532, Toledo OH 43623. Email: glassister@al.com. Support group.

TRI-S - ALPHA OMEGA: Box 2053, Sheffield Lake OH 44054-0053. (216)556-0067. Support group.

CD - PARADISE CLUB: Paradise, PO Box 29564, Parma OH 44129. Email: ParadiseCL@aol.com. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - CROSS-PORT: PO Box 1692, Cincinnati OH 45201. (606)581-3711, E-mail: crossport@aol.com. Support group.

INDIANA
(463-479)

CD/TS/F2M/M2F/SO - ?: Attn: Linda BB, PO Box 425, Carmel IN 46032. Phone: (317)781-0834, Angela. Support group.

CD/TS/F2M/M2F/SO - INDIANA CROSS-DRESSERS SOCIETY: IXE, Box 20710, Indianapolis IN 46220. Danielle (317)781-0834, or Gerri (812)882-4755. Support group.

SHRINKING VIOLETS: Att. Linda BB, PO Box 425, Carmel IN 46032. (317)781-0834 (ask for Angels). Email: kaylin@iquest.net

MICHIGAN
(480-499)

CROSSROADS: PO Box 1245, Royal Oak MI 48068-1245. Messages: (313)537-3267. Support group.

HOMESTEAD COUNSELING CENTER: Sandra L. Samons, DCSW, CAC, 1480 Shevchenko, Ann Arbor MI 48103. (313) 663-7871. Gender services & referals for UM Gender Program.

LEE PADULA, PhD: 37677 Professional Center Dr., Suite 110, Livonia MI 48154. (313)953-3333. Psychotherapist.

GLENY STENOFF, MSW: 32316 Five Mile, Suite #3, Livonia MI 48154. (313)421-4411. Psychotherapist.

CD/TS - NATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ORGANIZATION AND SUPPORT GROUP: NGDO, PO Box 02732, Detroit MI 48202. Justina Williams, President, (313)842-5258. Education and support.

TRI-S - THETA OMEGA GAMMA DETROIT: c/o Tri-Ess, 8880 Bellaire B2, Suite 104, Houston TX 77036. (temporary). Support group.

CD/TS/SO - I.M.E. OF WESTERN MICHIGAN: PO Box 1153, Grand Rapids MI 49501. Support group.

CD/TS/SO -NORTHWEST MICHIGAN GENDER SOCIETY: c/o Tricia Marie Benton, PO Box 271, Petoskey MI 49770. Support group.

IOWA
(500-528)

CD/TS/SO - RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE: RCGA, PO Box 680, Council Bluffs IA 51502-0680. (402)398-1255, E-mail: sgibbons@synergy.net. Support group.

PMC TRANSGENDER COUNSELING AND CONSULTATION: Richard V. Campagna, MA, JD, PO Box 5265, Coralville IA 52241-5265. (319)354-3189, FAX (319)337-2045

TRI-S - IOWA ARTISTRY: Box 75, Cedar Rapids IA 52406. Support group.

CD/TS - QUAD-CITY SOCIETY FOR SEXUALITY EDUCATION: 1236 W. 8th, Davenport IA 52802. (319)324-6941 from 6-9pm. Support group.

TS - PHOENIX: E-mail: ASuper@AOL.com. Support group.

CENTRAL IOWA GENDER INSTITUTE: Susan McIntyre, MSW, ACSW, (515)277-7754. Psychotherapist.

WISCONSIN
(530-548)

TRANSGENDER IDENTITY GROUP: c/o Ivanoff and Ivanoff, Ste 1810 Clark Building, 633 West Wisconsin Ave, Milwaukee WI 53203-1918. (414)271-3322. Psychotherapy.

INSTITUTE FOR PSYCHOSEXUAL HEALTH: Great Lakes Gender Clinic, 3250 North Oakland Avenue, Milwaukee WI 53211. Charles A.Kiley, ACSW, LICSW, (414)332 5407. Psychotherapy.

CD/TS/SO - GEMINI GENDER GROUP: PO Box 44211, Milwaukee WI 53214. (414)297-9328 (voice-mail). Support group.

MILWAUKEE TRANSGENDER PROGRAM: Pathways Counseling Center, 2645 N. Mayfair Road, Ste 230, First Financial Building, Milwaukee WI 53226-1304. (414)774-4111. Full service TS facility.

MINNESOTA
(550-567)

CD/TS/SO - MINNESOTA FREEDOM OF GENDER EXPRESSION: MFGE, Box 17945, St. Paul MN 55117. (612)220-9072 (voice-mail). Support group.

GENDER EDUCATION CENTER: GEC, PO Box 1861, Minneapolis MN 55311. Debbie Davis, Director. (612)424-5445, FAX (612)424-8595. Educational outreach.

TS - NEW MEN & WOMEN OF MINNESOTA: PO Box 6432, Minneapolis MN 55406-0432. (612)220-1920. Support group.

TRI-S - BETA GAMMA: Box 8591, Minneapolis MN 55408. (612) 870-8536. Support group.

DISTRICT 202: 2524 Nicollet Ave., So. Minneapolis MN 55408. Safe place for youth.

CD - CITY OF LAKES CROSSGENDER COMMUNITY: CLCC, PO Box 16265, Minneapolis MN 55414. (612)229-3613. Support group.

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA GENDER DYSPHORIA PROGRAM: c/o Program in Human Sexuality, 1300 South 2nd Street, Suite 180, Minneapolis MN 55454. (612)625 1500, FAX (612)626-8311. Full service TS facility.

TRANSGENDER HIV/AIDS PREVENTION PROGRAM: Human Sexuality, Dept. of Family Practice and Community Health, U Minnesota Medical School, 1300 So. 2nd Street, Suite 180, Minneapolis MN 55454. (612)625-1500, FAX (612)626-8311. Educational outreach.

ILLINOIS
(600-629)

RONALD B. BARON, MD: 2120 Sheridan Road, Highland Park IL 60035. (708)432-7007. Psychiatrist.

PARENTS AND FRIENDS OF TRANSGENDER COMMUNITY: PFTC, c/o Ellie Altman, Northbrook IL 60062. (847)564-9496, e-mail: EllieAlt@aol.com. Support group.

TRI-S - CHI CHAPTER: PO Box 40, Wood Dale IL 60191-0040. (708)262-8707. Support group.

RANDI ETTNER, PhD: 1214 Lake Street, Evanston IL 60201. (708)328-3433. Psychotherapy.

TS - THE SUNDAY SOCIETY: PO Box 478850, Chicago IL 60647. Sampognaro and Louise L. Raeder, (312)486-3125, (312)252-7024, Sheila L. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - CHICAGO GENDER SOCIETY: CGS, PO Box 578005, Chicago IL 60657. (708)863-7714. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - CENTRAL ILLINOIS GENDER ASSOCIATION: CIGA, PO Box 182, Washington IL 61571. (309)444-9918, JoAnn. Support group.

MISSOURI
(630-658)

CD/TS/SO - ST LOUIS GENDER FOUNDATION: StLGF, PO Box 9433, St. Louis MO 63117. (314) 367-4128. StLGF@aol.com. Support group.

CD/TS - MID-AMERICA GENDER GROUP INFORMATION EXCHANGE: MAGGIE, c/o St. Louis Gender Foundation, PO Box 9433, St. Louis MO 63117. Coalition.

TS - GENDER DYSPHORIA SUPPORT: Stacey K. Connors, 1101 S. Liberty Drive, Liberty MO 64068. (816)792-0304. Support group.

TS/SO - TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON: Non-prisoners contact Dee Farmer, 23288037, PO Box 4000, Springfield MO 65808. Prisoners contact Mrs. Patricia Fisher, Succ 293 Cote-des-Neiges, 5858 Cote-des-Neiges Blvd, Montreal, QC, CANADA H3S 2S6.

KANSAS
(660-679)

CD/TS/SO - CROSSDRESSERS AND FRIENDS: CAF, Box 4092, Overland Park KS 66204. (913)791-3847. Support group.

CD/TS - WICHITA TRANSGENDER ALLIANCE: PO Box 16831, Wichita KS 67216-0831. Support group.

NEBRASKA
(680-693)

CD/TS/SO - RIVER CITY GENDER ALLIANCE: RCGA, PO Box 680, Council Bluffs IA 51502-0680. Support group.

CD/TS/TG - THE ALLIANCE FOR TS: PO Box 365, Alliance NE 69301. Support group.

LOUISIANA
(700-714)

CD/TS/SO - GULF GENDER ALLIANCE: PO Box 870213, New Orleans LA 70187-1300. (504) 833-3046. Support group.

CD/TS/SO NEW GROUP FORMING: c/o LA Belle, PO Box 4373, Baton Rouge LA 70821-4373. Support group.

ARKANSAS
(716-729)

TRI-S - MU SIGMA: PO Box 24031, Little Rock AR 72221. (501)227-8798, (501)523-2466. Support group.

CD/TS/TG/SO - **DANIELLE'S GETAWAY:** c/o Danielle Storm, PO Box 61, Jonesboro AR 72403-0061. Support group.

OKLAHOMA
(730-749)

CD/TS - **SOONER DIVERSITY:** PO Box 575, Norman OK 73070. Support group.

TRI-S - **SIGMA BETA:** PO Box 42122, Oklahoma City OK 73123. Support group.

CD/TS - **CENTRAL OKLAHOMA TRANSGENDER ALLIANCE:** COTA PO Box 60354, Oklahoma City OK 73146. Support group.

CD/TS - **CROSS DRESSERS INTERNATIONAL:** CDI c/o Ms Gwen Pete, PO Box 50192, Tulsa OK 74104. (918)582-6643/ 835-5334. Support group.

CD/TS - **DESIRE:** c/o Ms. Gwen Pete, PO Box 50192, Tulsa OK 74104. Support group.

TEXAS
(750-799)

TRI-S - **DELTA OMEGA CHAPTER:** PO Box 141924, Irving TX 75014. (214)264-7103. Support group.

CD/TS - **AGAPE:** 1631 Dorchester, #112, Plano TX 75075. (214)424-1234. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **RECAST:** PO Box 224001, Dallas TX 75222-4001. Support group.

TRI-S - **NU EPSILON TAU:** PO Box 14096, Pantego TX 76094. (214)490-5738. Support group.

CD/TS - **HELP ME...ACCCEPT ME OF DALLAS:** 6753 Camp Bowie Blvd., #177, Fort Worth TX 76116. Supprt group.

GEORGE T. CARPENTER, III, DO & ASSOCIATES: 1101 Cheek-Sparger Rd, Suite 121, Colleyville TX 76034. (817)498-8707. Transgender medical therapy.

SO - **WIVES'/PARTNERS' SUPPORT:** PO Box 5304, Katy TX 77036. (909) 875-2687.

CD - **HELPING CDs ANONYMOUS:** HCDA, 68-4 e Hwy 6 s #334, Houston TX 77083. Email: brenda@firstnethou.com. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **GCTC:** PO Box 90335, Houston TX 77090. (713)780-4282. Support group.

TS - **TEXAS ASSOCIATION FOR TS SUPPORT:** PO BOX 142, Bellaire TX 77401. (713)827-5913. Support group.

TRI-S - **TAU CHI CHAPTER-TRI ESS:** Box 1105, Alief TX 77411-1105. (713)988-8064 voice. Support group.

ROSENBERG CLINIC, GENDER TREATMENT PROGRAM: 1103 Rosenberg, Galveston TX 77550. (409)763-0016. Medical, psychological care and support groups.

SO - **WATS:** PO Box 17, Bulverde TX 78163. (210)980-7788, before 9:00pm CT, please. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **BOULTON & PARK SOCIETY:** PO Box 17, Bulverde, TX 78163 (210)980-7788 live Tues. 6-9 pm CT. Email: tx t party@aol.com. Support group.

TS - **SAN ANTONIO TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP:** SATSG, PO Box 12913, San Antonio TX 78212. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **AUSTIN SECOND IMAGE:** PO Bx 14965, Austin, TX 78761. (512)515-5460 Wed. 7-9pm. Support group.

CD/TS - **WEST TEXAS GENDER ALLIANCE:** c/o Tami Maloney, 5817 Atlantic Dr., Abilene TX 79606. Support group.

COLORADO
(800-816)

INSTITUTE FOR GENDER STUDY AND TREATMENT: Tomye Kelley, MA, PO Box 126, Arvada CO 80001. (303)420-9885. Psychotherapy.

SO -**TEENAGE KIDS OF TS:** TAKOTS, c/ o Laurie Ciccotello, 1740 S. Buckley Road #6-178, Aurora CO 80017. Support group.

CD/TS - **THE PHOENIX PROJECT:** 1740 South Buckley Road, #6-178, Aurora CO 80017. Psychotherapy.

CD/TS - **JOHN R BARRY, MSW: LICSW,** 3955 E. Exposition Ave, Suite 408, Denver CO 80209. (303)698-2385, Fax (303)777-2878. Psychotherapy.

CD/TS - **GENDER IDENTITY CENTER OF COLORADO, INC.:** GIC, 1455 Ammons Street, Suite 100, Lakewood CO 80215. (303)202-6466. Educational outreach.

FTM - **FTM SUPPORT GROUP:** Meets third Wednesday at 7.00 pm. Call John (303)698-2385.

TRI-S - **DELTA DENVER:** PO Box 16208, Denver CO 80216. (303)595-5TRI. Support group.

DEB-ANN THOMPSON, PhD, NCACII, CACIII: 2755 S. Locust St., Suite #207, Denver CO 80222. (303)758-6634. Psychotherapy.

CD/TS - **SUPPORT GROUP OF PUEBLO:** PO Box 1918, Pueblo CO 81002. (719)543-6460. Support group.

WYOMING
(820-831)

CD/TS - **CENTRAL WYOMING TG SUPPORT GROUP:** PO Box 1301, Evansville WY 82636. (307)265-3123. Support group.

UTAH
(840-847)

CD/TS/SO - **ALPHA RHO, SALT LAKE CITY:** PO Box 571242, Murray UT 84157-1242. (801)553-8141. Support group.

CD/SO - **LAMBDA - LAMBDA - LADIES OF THE LOCH:** Genevera Martin Pres., PO Box 651073, Salt Lake City UT 84165-1073. (801)576-1416. Support Group.

ARIZONA
(850-864)

SHEILA FRIEDEMAN DICKSON, PhD: 3930 East Camelback Rd., #205, Phoenix AZ 85018. (602)956-3006. Psychotherapy.

CD/TS - **A ROSE:** PO Box 82813, Phoenix AZ 85071-2813. Support group.

CD/TS/TG- **GENDER OUTLAWS:** PO Box 55863, Phoenix AZ 85078. (602) 274-9599. Hotline, professional referrals.

TRI-S - **ALPHA ZETA CHAPTER:** PO Box 1738, Tempe AZ 85280. Email: jenjen@netzone.com Support group.

SORORITY: support group for family, friends. (602)293-3456.

COUNSELING ASSOCIATES: Ginnie Monroe Grant, CISW, 5440 S. Clambake, Tempe AZ 85283. (602)897-0444. Psychotherapy.

WINGSPAN: 422 North 4th Avenue, Tucson AZ 85705. Support group.

CD/TS/Gay CD - TRI-S - **TAU UPSILON:** 8802 Broadway Blvd., #145, Tucson AZ 85710. (520)296-3472. Support group.

CD/TS/TG - **EVOLVER:** 416 E. 22nd St., Tucson AZ 85713. (520) 884-0541. Support group.

METRO'ON OF CATALINA: Focuses on study of the spiritual heritage of the Gallae the transgendered priestesses of Cybele and Attis. Email: gallae@azstarnet.com

NEW MEXICO
(870-884)

TRI-S - **FIESTA!:** 8200 Montgomery NE, #241, Albuquerque NM 87109. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **SUPPORT GROUP:** c/o Stephanie, 2449 Algodones N.E., Albuquerque NM 87112. Support group.

NEVADA
(890-898)

TRI-S - **TAU UPSILON:** 8802 E. Broadway Blvd., #145, Tucson AZ 85710. (502) 296-3472. Support group.

TRI-S -**THETA UPSILON GAMMA:** PO Box 42401, Las Vegas NV 89116. (702) 387-3891. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **TURNABOUTS OF LAS VEGAS:** PO Box 927, Las Vegas NV 89125. (702) 222-7814. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **TRANSSEXUALS SUPPORT GROUP:** Leave a message for Marty, (702)594-7884. Support group.

CARING COUNSELING: Nancy Lee, PhD, 2061 Market Street, Reno NV 89502. (702)322-7771. Psychotherapy.

CD/TS/SO - **SILVER ROSE GENDER ASSOCIATION:** c/o Lynda Cheney, PO Box 1334, Carson City NV 89702. Email: lyndach@aol.com. Support group.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA
(900-960)

CD - **ANDROGYNY:** PO Box 480740, Los Angeles CA 90004. (213)467-8317, Shiela or Shirley. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **MINORITY AIDS PROJECT:** 5149 W. Jefferson Blvd, Los Angeles CA 90016. (213)936-9338. Education and outreach.

BRAD TAYLOR, MA: Offices of Jerome Rabow, PhD, 10350 Santa Monica Blvd, Suite 310, Los Angeles CA 90025. (310)576-5455. Psychotherapy.

TS - **AMERICAN TRANSSEXUAL EDUCATION CENTER:** ATEC, 1626 N. Wilcox Ave., #584, Hollywood CA 90028. (213)389-6938. Referrals.

TRI-S - **ALPHA:** PO Box 36091, Los Angeles CA 90036. Ask for Virginia. (213)876-6141. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **GENDER AWARENESS LEAGUE:** c/o Grace Bredow, PO Box 46062, Los Angeles CA 90046. Support group.

LOS ANGELES GENDER CENTER: LAGC, 1923-1/2 Westwood Blvd., Suite 2, Los Angeles CA 90025. Phone: (310)475-8880. Marie Keller, MFCC. Psychotherapy.

CD/TS - **CLUB CHERCHEZ LA FEMME:** PO Box 14521, Long Beach CA 90803. Send SASE for details. Private membership club.

CD/TS - **ON THE SCENE NIGHT:** Marlayna Lacie, 1856 Cherry, #608, Long Beach CA 90806. Parties and socials.

CD/SO - **CROSSDRESSER HETEROSEXUAL INTERSOCIAL CLUB:** CHIC, PO Box 8487, Long Beach CA 90808. (310)420-2580. Support group.

CD/TS - **GENDER EXPRESSIONS:** PO Box 816 Lakewood, CA 90714. (310) 869-4241. Outreach coordination.

CD - **CD SOCIAL GROUP:** PO Box 224, Montrose CA 91021.

SO - **PATHFINDERS:** PO Box 2973, Corona CA 91718-2973. Support group for genetic women involved with the gender community.

CD/TS/SO - **BORN FREE:** PO Box 3822 Riverside CA 925519-3822. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **PSGV TRANSGENDERED SUPPORT:** 401 South Main Street, Ste. 104, Pomona CA 91765. (909)620-8987. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **NEUTRAL CORNER:** PO Box 12581, San Diego CA 92112. (619)685-3696. E-mail: http://users.aol.com/nutrlcrnr.html Support group.

TRANSGENDER COUNSELING AND RESEARCH CENTER: 4545 Park Blvd., #207, San Diego CA 92116. (619) 542-0088, ext. 1. Counseling, support group, Harry Benjamin SOC.

TRANSGENDER COUNSELING AND RESEARCH CENTER: 4545 Park Boulevard, Ste 207, San Diego CA 92116. (619)542-0088 Ext 1. Psychotherapy and support group.

TS - **PHOENIX RISING:** c/o Kristen Dixon, PO Box 632852, San Diego CA 92163-2852. Support group.

TG - **TRANS ACTION:** PO Box 632954, San Diego CA 92163-2954. Support/advocacy group.

SO - **LOVED ONES OF TRANSSEXUALS:** (714)786-6891. Support group.

THE PRINCE INSTITUTE: PO Box 2916, Palm Springs CA 92263. Angela Prince, Ph.D., Director. Psychotherapy.

ROXANNE CHERRY, PhD: 343 3rd St., Laguna Beach CA 92651. (714)497-9925. Psychotherapy.

SO - **LADIES KNIGHT OUT:** PO Box 232, Laguna Hills CA 92654. Support group.

GENDER DYSPHORIA PROGRAM OF ORANGE COUNTY, INC.: 32158 Camino Capistrano, Suite 203, San Juan Capistrano CA 92675. Wm. G. Heard, PhD, Director. (714)240-7020. Mental health facility.

CD/TS/SO - **POWDER PUFFS OF CALIFORNIA:** PPOC, PO Box 1088, Yorba Linda CA 92686. (714)779-9013 weekdays 9am to 9pm PT. Support group.

CD/SO - **LADIES KNIGHT OUT:** PO Box 19608-179, Irvine CA 92713. (714)262-9105. Support group for heterosexual crossdressing couples.

TRI-S - **TRI-CHI - TRI ESS:** PO Box 194, Tulare CA 93275. Support group.

TRI-S - **SOCIETY FOR THE SECOND SELF:** c/o Carol Beecroft, Box 194, Tulare CA 93275. (209)688-9246. Support group.

INFO LINK ORANGE COUNTY: (714)851-2883. Referrals. Also available in Spanish and TDD.

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA
(900-960)

FTM TS/TG - **TRANSMALE TASKFORCE:** 1259 El Camino Real, #151, Menlo Park CA 94025. (415) 780-9349. F2M support.

TENDERLOIN SELF-HELP CENTER: 191 Golden Gate Ave.., San Francisco CA 94102. (415)554-0518. Peer counseling & support group.

WILLIAM A. HENKIN, PhD: 1801 Bush Street, Ste. 111, San Francisco CA 94109. (415) 923-1150. Psychotherapy.

BARBARA F. ANDERSON, PhD, LCSW: 1537 Franklin St., Ste. 104, San Francisco CA 94901. (415)776-0139. Psychotherapy.

CD/TS - **TRANSGENDER NATION SAN FRANCISCO:** 584 Castro, PO Box 288, San Francisco CA 94114-2588. (415)863-6717. Political action group.

FTM TS - **FPSG:** 584 Castro, PO Box 410-990, San Francisco CA 94141-0990. Support group for FTM TSs of COLOR ONLY.

CD/TS/SO - **SAN FRANCISCO GENDER INFORMATION:** SFGI, PO Box 423602, San Francisco CA 94142-3602. Maintains database of TG resources for SF Bay area.

CD/TS/SO - **EDUCATIONAL TV CHANNEL:** ETVC, PO Box 426486 San Francisco CA 94142-6486. (510)549-2665 hotline, (415)334-3439 voice-mail, Telzey (510)849-4112. Support group.

SO - **SIGNIFICANT OTHERS SUPPORT:** SOS, c/o ETVC, PO Box 426486, San Francisco CA 94142-6486. Support group.

GENDER & SELF ACCEPTANCE PROGRAM: GSAP, PO Box 424447, San Francisco CA 94142. Gianna Eveling Israel, Director, (415)558-8058. Psychotherapy.

JEANNE M. WEST: 450 San Antonio Rd, #50, Palo Alto CA 94306. (415)494-2952. Psychotherapy.

HARRY BENJAMIN INTERNATIONAL GENDER DYSPHORIA ASSOCIATION: HBIGDA, 3790 El Camino Real, #251, Palo Alto CA 94306-3314. (415)322-2335. Resource for professionals.

CD/TS/SO - **DIABLO VALLEY GIRLS:** DVG, PO Box 272885, Concord CA 94527-2885. (510)937-8432. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **SAN JOAQUIN GENDER ASSOCIATION:** 1141 Catalina Drive, Box 163, Livermore CA 94550. (510)447-9920. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **PACIFIC CENTER FOR HUMAN GROWTH:** 1250 Pine St., Walnut Creek CA 94596. (510)939-7711. Support group.

SOCIETY FOR INITIATIVES AND SERVICES IN TRANSGENDER ISSUES: PO Box 30844, Oakland CA 94604-0844. (510)601-7975. Sharon Grayson.

CD/TS - **SAN FRANCISCO GENDER INFORMATION:** SFGI, c/o Dr. Rebecca Auge, 3637 Grand Ave, Suite C, Oakland CA 94610. Database of TG resources $3.00. Send SASE for further info.

REBECCA AUGE, PhD: 3637 Grand Ave, Suite C, Oakland CA 94610. (415)426-0718 or 835-9820. Psychotherapy.

FTM TS - **FTM INTERNATIONAL:** 5337 College Avenue, #142, Oakland CA 94618. Support group for FTM TSs.

CD/TS/SO - **PACIFIC CENTER FOR HUMAN GROWTH:** 2712 Telegraph Ave, Berkeley CA 94705. (510)548-8283. Support group.

ANNE VITALE, PhD: D Street Counseling Group, 610 D St, San Rafael CA 94901. (415) 456-4452. Psychotherapy.

CD/TS - **SWAN'S INNER SOCIETY:** PO Box 1423, San Jose CA 95109. (408)297-1423, FAX (408)993-8173. Support group.

GAY/LES/TG - **THE BILLY DEFRANK CENTER:** 175 Stockton Avenue, San Jose CA 95126. Support group.

CD - **THURSDAY IRREGULARS:** c/o Joan Sheldon, PO Box 6541, San Jose CA 95150-6541. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **RAINBOW GENDER ASSOCIATION:** PO Box 700730, San Jose CA 95170. (408)984-4044 warmline. Support group.

CD/TS - **REDWOOD EMPIRE SOCIAL GROUP:** PO BOX 1531, Sonoma CA 95476. (707)938-8029. Support group.

ALICE WEBB, MSW: PO Box 1718, Sonoma CA 95476-1718. (707)939-7416. Psychotherapy.

CD/TS/SO - **SACRAMENTO GENDER ASSOCIATION:** PO Box 215456, Sacramento CA 95821. (916)482-7742. Support group.

TRI-S - **SIGMA SIGMA BETA - TRI-ESS SIERRA SILVER BELLS:** SSB, PO Box 19933, S. Lake Tahoe CA 96151. Support group.

HAWAII
(967-969)

HAWAII TRANSGENDERED OUTREACH: PO Box 4530, Honolulu HI 96812-4530. (808)923-4270. Support group.

GAY AND LESBIAN COMMUNITY CENTER: 1820 University Ave, #208, Honolulu HI 96822. (808)951-7000, FAX (808)926-1000. Psychotherapy.

OREGON
(970-979)

CD - **NORTHWEST GENDER ALLIANCE:** NWGA, PO Box 4928, Portland OR 97208. (503)646-2802. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **TRANS-PORT:** PO Box 66913, Portland OR 97290-6913. (503)774-8463. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **CAPITOL CITY CHAPTER:** PO Box 3312, Salem OR 97302. Support group.

TS - **SALMACIS:** PO Box 1604, Eugene OR 97440-1604. (503) 688-4282 (Sally Ann, 6-11 PM PST). Psychotherapy.

TS - **SALISHON, THE WOMYN'S INFORMATION NETWORK:** SALISHON, PO Box 1604, Eugene OR 97440-1604. Service and information.

TG - **INTERMOUNTAIN TRANSGENDER OUTREACH** 1524 Monroe Avenue, La Grande OR 97850. (541)962-3466. Email: keol@eosc.osshe.edu. Support group.

WASHINGTON
(980-994)

TS/SO - **TRANSSEXUAL LESBIANS AND FRIENDS:** TLF, Seattle, WA (206)292-1037. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **EMERALD CITY:** PO Box 31318, Seattle WA 98103. (206)827-9494. Support group.

THE INGERSOLL GENDER CENTER: 1812 East Madison, Seattle WA 98122. (206)329-6651. Counseling and referrals.

PSYCHCARE NORTHWEST, CENTER FOR SEXUAL HEALTH: 2150 North 107th Street, Ste. 200, Seattle WA 98133. Psychotherapy.

CD/TS - **CINDERELLA CIRCLE:** 929 N. State St., #B, Bellingham WA 98225 (360) 671-7826. Support group.

TG - **Papillon: Attn**: Marianne, P.O. Box 1365, Veredale, WA 99037. Support Group. Phone: (509)624-5358.

ALASKA
(995-999)

ALASKAN T-PEOPLE: c/o Bobbie Wendy Tucey, PO Box 670349, Chugiak AK 99567-0349. Support group.

CANADA

QUEBEC

TS - **ETRE FEMME: QUEBEC TRANSEXUAL ASSOCIATION INC.:** Viviane Belander, 84, Boul. des Allies, P. Que., Quebec, CANADA G1L 1Y2. (418) 529-1152. Support group.

TS/SO - **FACTT- QUEBEC:** Box 293, Cote de Neiges Post Office, 5858 Cote de Neiges Blvd., Montreal, Quebec, CANADA H3S 2S6. French-speaking referrals, medical and psychological services and support group.

TS/SO - **TRANSSEXUALS IN PRISON:** Succ 293 Cote-des-Neiges, 5858 Cote-des-Neiges Blvd., Montreal, Quebec,CANADA H3S 2S6. Information and referrals.

CD/TS/SO - **CLUB MET:** 4113 Dorion Street, Montreal, Quebec, CANADA H2K 3B8. (514)528-8874. Support group. **(Formerly TAM)**

TS - **DR. YVON MENARD:** 1003 Boulevard St. Joseph Est, Montreal, Quebec, CANADA H2J 1L2. (514)288-3547. Plastic and GRS surgeon.

TS - **TRANS P.O.R.S.:** 475 Boulevard Gouin Ouest, Montreal, Quebec, CANADA H3L 1K4. (514)332-5421. Residence for post-op GRS recovery.

ONTARIO

TS/CD - **FACTT - OTTAWA:** Box 7421, Vanier, Ontario, Canada K1L 8E4. Support group.

TS - **TRANSITION SUPPORT:** c/o The Church Street Community Centre, 519 Church Street, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M4Y 2C9. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **XPRESSIONS:** PO Box 223, Station A, Toronto, Ontario, Canada M5W 1B2. (416)812-6879. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **GENDER METAPHOR:** Email only: genmet@adan.kingston.net. Support group.

CD/TS - **STREET OUTREACH SERVICES:** c/o W. Travers, 622 Yonge St, 2nd Fl, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M4Y 1Z8. (416)926-0744 (24 hours). Multitude of services for TG youth.

CD/TS/SO - **CANADIAN CROSSDRESSER'S CLUB:** 161 Gerrard St. E, Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M5A 2E4. (416) 921-6112 (24 hr.). Support group. e-mail: info@wildside.org.

CD/TS/SO - **GENDER MOSAIC:** PO Box 7421, Vanier Ottawa, Ontario, CANADA K1L 8E4. (819)770-1945. Support group.

GENDER IDENTITY CLINIC: Clarke Institute of Psychiatry, 250 CollegE Street Toronto, Ontario, CANADA M5T 1R8. (416)979-2221, ext. 2339. TS specialists, help for CDs as well.

MANITOBA

CD/TS/SO - **PRAIRIE ROSE GENDER GROUP:** PRGG, Box 23 Grp 4 RR1, Dugald, Manitoba, R0E 0K0. CANADA. (204) 257-2759. Support group.

ALBERTA

CD/TS/SO - **ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB:** Box 2000, 6802 Ogden Rd. SE, Calgary, Alberta, CANADA T2C 1B4. (403) 236 7072. Support group.

TRI-S - **PHI SIGMA:** Attn: Audrey Allen, Box 81115, 755 Lake Bonavista Drive S.E., Calgary, Alberta CANADA T2J 7C9. Support group.

CD/TS/SO - **ILLUSIONS SOCIAL CLUB:** Box 33002 Glenwood PO , Edmonton, Alberta, CANADA T5P 4V8. Support group.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

TS - **TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT GROUP:** Dr. Angela Wensley, 14905 32nd Avenue, White Rock, British Columbia, CANADA V4P 1A4. (604)536-2053. Support group.

CD/SO - **CORNBURY SOCIETY:** Box 3745, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA V6B 3Z1. Support group.

CD/TS - FOUNDATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF TRANS-GENDERED PEOPLE'S SOCIETY: FATE, 1-1727 William Street, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA V5L 2R5 (604)254-9591.

ZENITH FOUNDATION: 8415 Granville Street, PO Box 46, Vancouver, British Columbia, CANADA V6P 4Z9.

CD/TS/SO - DREAM GIRLS: PO Box 535, Kamloops, British Columbia, CANADA V2C 5L7. Support group.

ARGENTINA

TS - TRANSSEXUALS FOR THE RIGHT OF LIFE AND IDENTITY: TRANSDEVI, Casilla de Correo 151, C.P. 1748 Gral. Rodriguez, Buenos Aires.

BRAZIL

TS - PURPURINA (GLITTER) PROJECT: Katia Monteiro, no. 55 Rua DA Gloria, #30, Gloria, Rio de Janeiro. Phone: 02-252-4757. FAX: 02-227-5944. Educational outreach. AIDS awareness, referrals.

AFRICA

NIGERIA

TRANSFORMATION SECOND SELF: c/o Jane Enuneku, KM 4 Idiroko Road, PO Box 1006, OTA, OGUN STATE, WEST AFRICA.

SOUTH AFRICA

PHOENIX: c/o Desiree Dexter, PO Box 1332, Springs, 1560, Gauteng. Phone: +27111 362 5247.

SATRU: (S. African Transexual Research Unit) PO Box 87283, Houghton, Johannesburg 2041.

EUROPE

ENGLAND

BEAUMONT SOCIETY: Old Gloucester Street, London WC1N-3XX. Phone: +44-1582-41-2220.

BEAUMONT SOCIETY PARTNERS' GROUP: phones: +44-1223-441246 (South), +44-1203-717528 (Central & Wales).

BEAUMONT TRUST: BM Charity, London, WC1N 3XX.

SELF HELP ASSOCIATION FOR TRANSSEXUALS (SHAFT) AND GENDER DYSPHORIA TRUST INTERNATIONAL (GDTI): 2 School Road, Hampton Hill, Middlesex, London, TW12-1QL.

FRIENDS MESEYSIDE: 36 Bolton Street, Liverpool, L3-5LX. Phone: +44-151-709-3181, Fri. 7.30-9 GMT.

FTM NETWORK [also PRESS FOR CHANGE]: BM Network, London, WC1N-3XX.. Phone: +44-161-423-1915 (8-10.30 pm Wed. GMT). Email: s.t.whittle@mmu.ac.uk.

THE GENDER TRUST: BM Gentrust, London, WC1N-3XX. Phone: +44-1305-269222 before 9 pm GMT.

TS - GENDER IDENTITY CONSULTANCY SERVICES: BM Box 5434, London WC1N 3XX. Phone & FAX: +44-01323-470230.

INTERNATIONAL GENDER TRANSIENT AFFINITY: Box 2, 1 Banks Building, School Green Road, Freshwater, Isle of Wight, P040-9AJ.

MERMAIDS: BM Mermaids, London WC1N 3XX. Group for children and teenagers with gender dysphoria and their families.

NORTHERN CONCORD: PO Box 258, Manchester M60-1LN. Phone: +44-161-236-1311.

OUSU TRANSGENDER GROUP: Oxford University Student Union, Little Clarendon Street, Oxford. Phone: +44-1865-270777.

PHOENIX CENTRE: 12 Barnsbury Road, Islington N1-1NB.

ROSE'S CLUB: 29 Roundel Street, Sheffield, S9-3LE. Phone: +44-12-68-58-4761 Wed./Sun 7-10 pm. Email: roses@argonet.co.uk.

SEAHORSE SOCIETY: BM Seahorse, Box 6093, London WC1N-3XX.

TRANSESSEX: POBox 3, Basildon, Essex, SS14-1PT. Phone: +44-12-68-58-3761 Wed./Sun. 7-10 pm.

TRANS-NET: c/o R. Floyd, 3 St. Augustines Road, Chesterfield, Derbyshire S40 2SF. Phone & FAX: +44-1246-285799. Email: 100764.27Acompuserve.com (R. Floyd).

TV SELF HELP GROUP: TSHG, Box 3281, London, E1-6JG. Phone: +44-171-289-5240 (24 hours).

N. IRELAND

BELFAST BUTTERFLY CLUB: PO Box 210, BT1-1BG, Belfast. Phone: +44-585-430408.

SCOTLAND

CROSSLYNX: c/o SGLS, PO Box 38 Glasgow, G2-2QF. Phone: +44-141-221-8372.

TRANS-TRAP: c/o Miss Julie Bradshaw, 30/1 Halmyre Street, Edinburgh EH6 8QD. Phone: +44-131-555-6416.

WALES

SOUTH WALES TV/TS GROUP: c/o Martina Rees, 56a Kinross Ct, Ridgway Road, Llan-Romney, Cardiff, VF3-9AE.

FRANCE

ASSOC. BEAUMONT CONTINENTAL: ABC, BP-3, F-68350 Didenheim.

SWITZERLAND

KONTAKFORUM FEMME TRAVESTIE: Postfach 6788, CH-8023, Zurich.

TS - SELBSTHILFE GRUPPE: Postfach 92, CH-9008 St. Gallen.

SPAIN

TS - COLETIVO DE TRANSEXUALES DE CATALUNA: C. Balmes, 70, lo la, 08830 Sant Boi de Lobregat, Barcelona. Phone: 08080 3454 6398 Wed. 7.30-9 pm. Please speak Spanish.

GERMANY

BODY AND SOUL: c/o KIBISS KISS. Hanover. Phone: +0511/666567 oder Stefanie 0511/457347.

TV/TS - ChelSI e.V.: Treff Sachsen, Roesslerstr. 9, 09113 Chemnitz. Phone: +49-371-50094 (Friday only). FAX: +49-371-55867.

CLUB NEUES LEBEN NOVA: PO Box 710232, 80634 Munchen. Phone: +49-089/7916643, 6-6:30 pm (CET). Please speak German.

FPE Frankfurt: c/o Krucher & Surhoff, PO Box 800442, D-5904, Frankfurt am Main.

SELBSTHILFEGRUPPE FRANKFURT AM MAIN: Postfach 10 10 46, 63010 Offenbach. Tel. 069/8001008.

TV/TS - GEREDE e.V.: Treff Sachsen, Wiener Strasse 41, 01219, Dresden. Phone: +49-351/4640220 (Friday only).

INFORMATIONS KONTAKT UND VERMITTLUNGSSTELLEFUR TRANSSEXUELLE MENSCHEN IN BADEN WURTTEMBERG e.V.: IKV, c/o AOK Karlsruhe, Kriegstr. 41, D-76133, Karlsruhe. Phone/FAX: +49-721-62-3382.

LEBENSBERATUNG FUR TRANSEXUELLE MENSCHEN IM SAARLAND: c/o Dr. Waltraud Schiffels, Schlossstr 6, D-66117, Saarbruecken. Phone: +49-0681-583912

SELBSTHILFEGRUPPE FUR TRANSSEXUELLE MENSCHEN IN TUBINGEN: DAGMAR KALTENMARK, c/o Sozialforum, Tubingen e.V., Paulinenstr. 25, D-72072, Tubingen. Phone: +49-7472-6048. Email: 100722.3070@compuserve.com.

SELBSTHILFEGRUPPE: Monika Lusche, Muehlstr. 26, 74399 Waldheim. Phone: +49-7143-33502. Astrid Votz, Forstr. 10, 71111 Waldenbach. Phone: 07157/8222. Email: 10722.3070@compuserve.com or 10157.1116@compuserve.com.

SONTAGSCLUB e.V.: Rhinover Strasse 8, D-10437, Berlin. Phone: +49-30-208-2035 (Friday 6-8 CET). Email: kasimir@inf.fu-berlin.de.

INTERESSENGEMEINSCHAFT TRANSSEXUELLEGRUPPE IN DER SEKIS: Albrecht-Achilles-Str. 65, 10709 Ber;in. Phone: 030/8926602.

TRANSIDENTITAS: Postfach 10 10 46, 63010, Offenbach. Phone: +49-69-800-1008.

TRANSSEXUELLEN-ARBEITSKREIS: c/o HUCH, Westring 278, D-24116, Kiel. Phone: +49-431-17090. FAX: 431-17099.

TSH ESSEN: c/o Claudia Peppen horst, Caesarstr. 34, D-45130, Essen. Phone: +49-201-786899.

TSH MUNSTER: c/o MIKS, Herwarthstr 2, 48143 Muenster. Phone: +49-251/511263, Claudia Scholz.

TS GRUPPE HAMBURG: Christian Susan Black, Nubeblerkamp 13a, 22175 Hamburg. Phone: 040-754-4323.

TVV: PO Box 1148, D-65780, Hattersheim.

TS - VIVA TS SELBSTHILFEGRUPPE MUNCHEN e.V.: c/o Peter Reidel, Hirschbergstr. 14, D-80634, Munchen. Phone: +48-89-134681 6-6:30 pm CET. Please speak German. FAX: +49-89-162324.

TS - SELBSTHILFE BIELEFELD: C/0 Praxis fuer Beratung und Psychotherapie, Herrn Detlef Kunert, Karl-Eilers-Str. 1, 33602 Bielefeld. Phone: 0521/63623.

TS - SELBSTHILFEGRUPPE BONN: c/o SEKIS Bonn, Lotharstr. 95, 53115 Bonn. Phone: 0228/221754.

SHG DUESSELDORF: c/o Stefanie Sander, Pleistr. 1, B-4731 Eynatten/Belgian. Phone/FAX: 0032/87852833.

TS-GRUPPE: c/o AIDS-Hilfe Thueringen, Postfach 50, 99001 Erfurt. Phone: 0361/7312233.

TS-ANGEHOERIGENGRUPPE AWO-BERATUNGSZENTRUM: Luetzow-Str. 32, 450101 Essen. Phone: 0201/312051, 0201/312052.

TS - SELBSTHILFE GOETTINGEN, TS IN PRAXIS DR. WIEDEKING: Buehlstr. 28a, 37037 Goettingen. Phone: 0551/46755.

SHG-HEIDELBERG: Andreas Kress, Postfach 103766, 69029 Heiderlberg.

TRANSIDENTITAS e.V. SHG KOBLENZ: c/o Joana, phone: 0261/45040.

TRANSEXUELLENGRUPPE KOELN: c/o Karin, phone: 02196/1739.

PRO FAMILIA SACHSEN: c/o Prof. Dr. L. Aresin, 04315 Leipzig. Phone: 0341/61530.

TRANSIDENTITAS e.V. SHG: c/o Christoph, phone: 0391/5614616.

SHG MANHEIM: Andreas Tremmel, Postfach 1242, 67370 Dudenhofen.

TRANSIDENTITAS e. V.: WUF-ZENTRUM, Niggelweg 2, 97082 Wuerzberg, jeden4.

AUSTRIA

TransX-Verein TransGender: PO Box 331, A-1171, Wien.

BELGIUM

FRANJEPOOT: Postbox 53, B-2100 Deurne 1.

GENDERSTICHTING (BELGIUM GENDER FOUNDATION): Pluimstraat 48, B-8500, Kortrijk. Phone: +32-56-21-9541 (M-F 9-11:30 am, 1-4:30 pm, M & W to 8 pm).

TS - VERVLIET JESSICA: Kerkplaats 22, 2990 Gooreind - Wuustwezel, Belgium. Place to stay before and after surgery.

DENMARK

FPE-NE DENMARK: Box 170, DK-2670, Greve. Phone: +45-42-13-9032 (M, T 6-9 pm).

TRANSVISION: PO Box 280, DK-1502, Copenhagen V.

NORWAY

FPE-NE NORWAY: Box 1968, Vika, N-0125 Oslo.

EUROFANTASIA: Box 442, N-4301 Sandnes. Phone & FAX: +47-51-66-24-22. Email: jennys@transgender.org.

SWEDEN

TS - BENJAMIN: PO Box 9083, S 102 71, Stockholm. Phone: +46-40-611-9923, Tues. 7-9 pm CET.

FPE-NE SWEDEN: Box 49029, S-400 64 Gothenburg. Phone: +46-8-34-1316.

PHI PI EPSILON SVERIGE: Box 529, S-101 30 Stockholm.

FINLAND

DREAMWEAR CLUB: Box 159, FIN-80101 Joensuu.

SETA: c/o Trans Center, Box 135, FIN-00251 Helsinki. Phone: +358-0-2411-135. Email: ekt@seta.fi.

ESTONIA

GENDY: Angerja 13-27, EE-0004 Tallin. A small organization with mostly FtM members.

NETHERLANDS

TS - WERKGROEP TRANSSEKSUALITEIT GRONINGEN: EENDRACHTSKADE NZ 19, 9718 BB GRONINGEN, +31-(50) 527-35-89. Contact H.H. VISSCHER, E-MAIL: francina@worldaccess.nl.

GENDER TEAM AMSTERDAM: Prof. Dr. L.J.G. Gooren, Dept. Endocrynology/ Andrology, Free University Hospital, PO Box 7057, 1007 MB, Amsterdam. Phne: +31-20-444-0542 ext. 199. FAX: 444-0502.

FTM - HET JONGENSUUR: Binnenkadijk 178, 1018 ZH Amsterdam. Phone: 020-6221710.

TV/TS - LANDELIJKE KONTAKTGROEP TRAVESTIE EN TRANSSEKSUALITEIT: LKG T&T, Postbus 11575, 1001 GN Amsterdam. Phone: +31 (10) 453-18-93. Email: R.Hengeveld@inter.nl.net (Rosalind Hengeveld).

NEDERLANDSE VERENIGING HUMANITAS: PO Box 71 NL-1000 AB Amsterdam. Phone: +31-20-626-24-45. FAX: 622-7367.

STICHTING NEDERLANDS GENDER CENTRUM: Borssenburg 24, NL-1181 NV, Amstelveen. Phone: +31-20-612-4099. Political action group.

MTF/SO - WERKGROEP FACET: Rode Kruislaan 61, NL - 5628 GB Eindhoven. Phone: +31-40-241-5475.

TURKEY

TRAVESTY/TRANSSEXUALLE: c/o Demet Demir, Lao 176/DS, Kultur Je Sanat, Siraselviler, Taksim, Istanbul. **DO NOT PUT GROUP NAME ON ENVELOP.**

TV/TS - SEXUAL LIBERTIES: Use the ablove mailing snstructions for Travesty/ Transsexualle, c/o Iskendar Savasir. Educatinal outreach for all Islamic countries.

PAKISTAN

KHUSRA OF PAKISTAN: c/o Muhamid Aslam Khusra, PF-34 Abbotabad Hockey Stadium, Abbotabad. Phone: +92-5921-6158 (leave message) or 5921-2858.

RUSSIA

TV/TS - ICE AND FIRE MOSCOW: Nvo-Alekeeuskaya str. 7, Flat No. 8, 129626, Moscow. Also: Mirninsky r-n Gagarina str. 28, Flat #3, 678190 Aihal Yakutia. Write Directly to Margaret Mankevich. **DO NOT PUT GROUP NAME ORTITLE ON ENVELOP.**

TV/SO - FPE LATVIA: Elga Remes, Jurmala, 15, PO Box 17 LATVIA LV 2015.

AUSTRALIA

NEW SOUTH WALES

F-M TS - BOYS WILL BE BOYS: PO Box 1349, Strawberry Hills, 2012. Telephone: +61-02-319-2034.

GENDER CENTRE: PO Box 266, Petersham, 2049. Telephone:+61-02-569-2366.

CD - LES GIRLS: PO Box 504, Burnwood, 2134.

SEAHORSE SOCIETY NSW: PO Box 168, Westgate, 2048. Telephone: +61-02-569-6239 (Thurs. eve.). Email: kim@seahors.cv.com.

SEX WORKERS OUTREACH TRANSGENDER SUPPORT PROJECT: SWOP, PO Box 1453, Darlinghurst 2010. Phone: +61-02-212-2600; FAX : 212-3978.

TRANSGENDER LIBERATION COALITION: TLC, PO Box 208, Kings Cross, 2011. Phone: +61-02-358-5664.

QUEENSLAND

AUS. TRANSGENDERIST SUPPORT ASSOC. INC.: ATSAQ, PO Box 212, New Farm, 4005, Phone: +61-07-846-3787 (24-hour helpline), 236-2400, FAX 236-2398.

FtM - BOYS WILL BE BOYS: PO Box 212, West End, 4005, Phone: 07-846-3787.

GENDER CLINIC: 484 Adelaide Street, Brisbane, 4000. Phone: +61-07-839-8262.

SEAHORSE CLUB OF QUEENSLAND: PO Box 574, Annerley, 4103.

SELF HEALTH FOR QUEENSLAND WORKERS IN THE SEX INDUSTRY: SQWISI, PO Box 689, West End 4101. Phone: +61-07-844-4565. FAX: 844-8840.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

CARROUSAL CLUB OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA: PO Box 721, Cowandilla, 5033. Phone: +61-08-388-3644, Lana Allen; 281-6190, Michelle.

CHAMELEONS GROUP: PO Box 907, Kent Town, 5071. Phone: +61-08-362-1611.

SOUTH AUSTRALIA TRANSSEXUAL SUPPORT: Phone: +61-08-362-3223, Gayline; 362-1611, Jenny.

VICTORIA

FTM TS - BOYS WILL BE BOYS: PO Box 328, Northcote, 3070.

ELAINE BARRIE PROJECT: PO Box 405, Altona, 3018. Phone: +61-369-2613.

GENDER DYSPHORIA CLINIC AT THE MONASH MEDICAL CENTRE: Clayton Campus, 246 Clayton Road, Clayton 3168. Phone: +61-03-955-1437, ask for Dawn.

SEAHORSE CLUB: Victoria, Box 2337V, Melbourne, 3001.

TRANSGENDER LIBERATION AND CARE: TLC, PO Box 1674, South Preston, 3071. Phone: +61-03-948-11506, ask for Sharon. Email: gayle@melbpc.org.au.

WEST AUSTRALIA

CHAMELEON SOCIETY: PO Box 367, Victoria Ppark, 6163. Phone: +61-01-577-1753.

GENDER COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA (W.A.) INC.: PO Box 58, Victoria Park, 6110. Phone: +61-09-362-5447.

WATS SUPPORT UNITY AND PRIDE: WATSUP, PO Box 771, Doubleview, 6018.

NEW ZEALAND

NEW ZEALAND GENDER DYSPHORIA FOUNDATION: NZGDF, PO Box 2827, Auckland.

TRANSSEXUAL OUTREACH PROJECT/ TRANSSEXUAL EDUCATION WELFARE AND HEALTH ORGANISATION: TOPS/TEWAHO, PO Box 11-412, Manners Street, Wellington.

JAPAN

ELIZABETH CLUB: 5-32-18 Kameido, Koto-ku, Tokyo 136. Phone: +81-3-3683-6092.

ELIZABETH CLUB: 1-1-9 Kujo, Nishi-Ku, Osaka 550.

ELIZABETH NAGOYA SHOP: 1-13-15 Noritake Nakamura-Ku, Nagoya-shi 453.

FTM NIPPON: Adachi-Ku, Adachi-nishi-post office, Tokyo 123. Phone: +81-3-3683-6092 (Kameido Club).

The Man in the Red Velvet Dress

A column for CD's

J.J. Allen

"You're such a liar! All that stuff you told me about your 'femme self' is just a bunch of lies!" my friend Richard recently found his wife screaming at him. What had brought about this railing accusation? It seems that Richard had become a victim of his own making.

How?

Allen's Fourth Law of Crossdressing states that when crossdressing is based upon emotional bribery, the CD is doomed to a humiliating failure that can take many forms. The calculus is simple: Many CDs have been known to make the following statement to their SO's: "If you let me dress and express my 'femme self,' I'll be such a better husband, lover, and friend because I'll be more in touch with my sensitive, loving, caring, feminine side."

Such a declaration creates a huge liability. Indeed, were I to find myself in the insurance business–and I pray that it never comes to that–I would never underwrite such representations. For if I did, many SOs of CDs would surely file claims for breach of contract. I would go bankrupt paying these claims. My investors would be left wishing they had invested in those comparatively safe Iraqi oil futures.

The enchantment of crossdressing can lead the CD to make unattainable promises about the femme self. Furthermore, these promises have schizoid undertones: There is a bad-male side to me and a good-feminine side. Crossdressing will subdue the bad-male side and elevate the good-feminine side. This unnecessary schism invalidates being male, and, unfortunately, this is the very state in which most CDs spend the majority of their waking hours.

To position the femme self within a context of emotional bribery is tantamount to waking up in the middle of a minefield with a bad hangover. Such an act introduces a heavy burden into the life of the CD, for he suddenly realizes that his every word, thought, and deed must reflect an always wonderful self. Landmines abound in such self-created hells.

It seems that upon the fateful day noted at the beginning of this column, Richard had entered into an ill-advised argument with his mother-in-law. While Maxwell Smart and the Chief simply lowered their cone of silence to preclude KAOS agents from overhearing their secrets or arguments, poor, stupid Richard found himself launching a profanity-laden rehearsal of his mother-in-law's manifold characterological defects and past sins in front of God, the neighbors, and, alas, his wife and children.

Later that evening Richard found himself alone with a very angry spouse. She began her remarks by reminding him of his own words, "You said crossdressing got you in touch with your caring, feminine side. That it made you more sensitive and loving. Well, I didn't see that today. In fact, I just saw an ugly, vicious, man verbally abuse his children's 69 year-old-grandmother, and my very own mother, in front of them. You're such a liar! All that stuff you told me about your 'femme self' is just a bunch of lies!"

Richard was humiliated. It was true, he had made unrealistic promises in an attempt to prove to his wife that there would be an emotional benefit if he were allowed to carry out his crossdressing without criticism. His wife assented and didn't make an issue of his crossdressing. Yet his outburst repudiated his promise, for crossdressing hadn't made Richard sensitive and loving; his talk of *transformation through transgenderism* rang hollow.

Some CDs are quick to claim that femininity is the repository of love, virtue, and tenderness, while consigning masculinity to the lowest level of Dante's hell wherein dwell the apostates in infinite torment. Yet, when we look at women like Roseanne, or California's Senator Barbara Boxer–who was one of the sixteen brave souls who stood against the so-called *Defense of* Marriage Bill in our often hopelessly medieval Senate–we see world-class anger, boldness, and a sense of transgression against the system existing spectacularly within the female form. Such behavior does not make these women any less feminine, for negative emotions such as anger, hostility, and aggression are an essential aspect of the human condition.

As Thomas Moore points out in Chapter 6 of Care of the Soul: "Criminality and transgression, when not acted out in violence, are dark virtues of the heart, necessary for the full presence of an individual on earth. Only when they are repressed do we find them wandering the streets of a city as incarnations of the rejected shadow."

If anything, both the CD and the TG have to find their anger and sense of transgression in order that they may rage against our life-killing culture of gender, sexual, relational, spiritual, and financial oppression. Accordingly, then, the strategy of assigning negative human emotions to maleness is counterproductive in that it results in the loss of the vital power these emotions offer. Indeed, the entire strategy of setting up maleness and femaleness as existential and spiritual antagonists only encourages this needless dichotomy. My point is that maleness is not a disease, nor is crossdressing its cure. While the behavior of individual males and females can be cretinous, this is certainly no reason to dismiss either sex as wholly corrupt.

While Richard should have exercised restraint and not engaged in an argument in front of his children, the fact is that his anger may well have been justified. After all, when people become angry it is seldom a comment upon their sex or gender. Hence, the CD need not surrender, falsify, or misrepresent his authentic emotional nature. Rather, his challenge is to communicate honestly about his psychosexual complexity and needs. Conversely, the CD must also make the effort to understand the emotional dynamics and needs of his SO.

Although the transgendered do not always agree upon things, I believe the one thing we all *do* agree upon is the fact that the *transgendered experience* is rooted in telling the truth about one's self. Even so, we need to remember that telling the truth about one's self isn't always about beauty, serenity, or finding a supposed inner perfection. Sometimes truth-telling takes the painful form of recognizing that one has unique, even dark, needs that culture and others will never comprehend. The power of the truth being what it is, the CD can count on the fact that the truth of his feminine nature will emerge authoritatively in his life. The question thus becomes a matter of whether that feminine self will emerge neurotically or authentically.

continued on page D54

Trans Personals

Where the Transgendered Community Meet.

OBJECTIVES of the PERSONAL LISTINGS:

1) To provide a means of introduction, outreach, and communication for subscribers to *Transgender Tapestry* and Supporters of I.F.G.E.
2) To provide readers with a source of support and communications.
3) To provide the general public with a better understanding of the nature of the people who are members and supporters of the Transgendered Community.

WHO MAY PLACE A LISTING:
To place a personal listing you must be an up-to-date General Subscriber (or an IFGE Supporting Member). As a subscriber, your personal listing is free of charge for the duration of your subscription. Also, your mail will be forwarded at no cost to you.

HOW TO PLACE A LISTING:
Fill out the form on the back of the subscription form. Please note that there is a limit of forty words for the text. Your ad may be edited for length and for taste. Please be discreet. No addresses will be published in the Personal Listings. The last number after your name is the last issue of *Transgender Tapestry* you will receive on your subscription.

If you send in a photo to be printed with your Personal Listing, we will keep it on file to ensure that it is available when and if we have more picture catastrophes the way we have lately. Your photo will NOT be returned.

HOW TO RESPOND:
Please follow these intructions when answering an ad:

(A) Place your letter in an unstamped envelope.
(B) Pencil in the name, state prefix, and membership number appearing after the name. (Be sure to use pencil so the name can be erased.)
(C) Include $1.00 (for postage and handling) for each piece to be forwarded.
(D) Place the letters to be forwarded in another envelope & mail to:

Transgender Tapestry
P.O. BOX 229
WALTHAM MA 02254-0229

OUR APOLOGIES!

Due to a switch in printers, the resignation of our former Art Director and the inability of our old computer system to handle the increased amount of illustrative material in every issue, a small number of personals and/or photos were irretrievably lost over the last three issues. If your listing or photo is still missing, please forward fresh copies and we will ensure that it runs for the full four issues, as promised. Write: Trans-personals, IFGE, PO Box 229, Waltham MA 02254-0229.

PUERTO RICO (009-)

VANESSA DIANE S.
(PR-M5582-K12287-80)

DWM, Hispanic, 33, 5'12", bilingual professional. "Closet CD (limited experience), very shy (live with conservative parents), but able to meet you and travel any time. Love sports (SCUBA), makeup and lingerie. Seek supportive GG (preferred) or TV/TS to help with my femininity. Must be discreet. Will answer all."

APO (090-)

SARAH J.
(APO-M5202-K11536-77)
TV, 18/20, American living in Germany. "Love to travel & have been out in public both in the States & Germany. Plan to explore the world more as I would like to meet others who want to do the same. Am a slow writer, but will write to anyone who wishes to correspond."

DONNA W.
(APO-M5600-K12394-80)
MWM bi, 53. "Crossdressing since childhood. Second wife knows & helps. Cannot meet as I live & work outside the country. Mbr FIL for years. Like to write & will answer all."

MASSACHUSETTS (010-027)

SUSAN A.

MA-P-M0064-K0206-79
"Mbr Tiffany Club of New England. WM, 5'7", considered passable. Interested in TV literature & clothing, especially lingerie. Would like to correspond with others with similar interests."

JANICE H.
(E MA-P-M0254-K0109-80)
"TCNE, Tri-Ess. Participant Fantasia Fair. DWM, 70, 5'6", 155, blue eyes, brown hair. Go out as Janice shopping, eating at restaurants, visiting other TVs. Make friends, but am on the quiet side, write to many other TVs. Will answer all letters. Would like to take hormones & live full time as a woman."

HOLLY CROSS
(MA-P-M0279-K0188-99)
"TV, senior citizen, 22WT. Lots

of clothes, old ham gear, some money, no job, live alone. Attended 60 weekends & 750 concerts dressed since 1983. Wish I'd started sooner. Don't need correspondence, but often need someone to share a hotel room."

AUDREY M.
(E MA-P-M0280-K1855-77)
"Mature (young 59) MWM, 5'10", 155, bi CD, extensive wardrobe, business owner, kind, gentle, sincere, sensuous, broad interests, write published TV stories. Would love to dress with another TV or empathetic male."

JUDITH ANNE THOMPSON
(E MA-P-M0733-K0229-79)
"Member of IFGE and INNvestments. Widowed WMCD, 74, 5'9", 185. Retired, good listener, honest & intelligent Pass well. Like photography, sailing gardening, good music raising butterflies. Would like contact with CDs in SE MA area."

SUSAN ELIZABETH R.
(MA-M0839-K0055-80)
"SWM TV, 60, 6', 180, brown hair, hazel eyes. Like photography, treasure hunting, '40s &'50s music, dogs, nature, & being a lady. I would like to correspond with other girls in E. Mass., especially Metro-West area."

JULIE WINSLOW
(MA-M1587-K0217-82)
MWM TG, 40. Member of INNvestments. "Supportive wife to share wear with. Do not go out crossdressed except to meetings and such. Natural farmer, artist, ACTIVIST."

SUE FANON
(W MA-P-M0983-K0020-79)
SBiM TV, 40, 5'10", 165, easy-going, understanding, safe and discreet. "I would like to correspond with TV/TSs and understanding ladies who would like to help with my femininity. I would also like to be a friend to someone who is going through transition."

ARLENE SUSAN L.
(MA-P-M1648-K0121-77)
Mbr of TCNE. MWM hetero TV, 5'10", 205. "Love dressing completely as a woman, going out & developing the ability to pass in public & blend in to the feminine world. Married; wife not supportive. Interested in TG friends who are sincere & have the same likes."

DIANA J.
(MA-M1999-K140-83)
"Have taken hormones for 20 years, did electrolysis myself, TS in feelings. I have bought merchandise for business as a woman. I love my femininity and always look forward to the next day as a lady."

DEBBIE SAWYER
(MA-P-M2170-K2590-77)
DWM, 40s, Mbr AXA, Tri-Ess. "CD seeking the spiritual feminine, balance of masculine & feminine, new friends. Would like to met supportive & understanding women."

JOY SPENCER
(MA-M2530-K3700-79)
MWM, mid-40s. "Wife knows & we are working on it. After such a long time hiding, I am cautiously & slowly coming out. Would appreciate helping words or hand from someone further along the path. Prefer central MA."

KAY LEE
(MA-M2787-K4481-79)
WM, TV, 6', 190. "Wife knows, wants nothing to do with it. Wouldn't pass in a dark room. I just know how I feel when dressed. I love it all, and it makes me feel good, comfortable, relaxed. Therapy to accept myself didn't really work. I may feel guilty even after a lifetime of dressing. Need an outlet for the real me."

DENISE S.
(MA-P-M3049-K5807-78)
Mbr TCNE. CD, 42, 5'8", 140. "Shy, gentle, loves nature, gardening, walking, tennis. Moving to NH shortly. Coming out step by step. I invite you to join me to share support & friendship. Is the understanding & acceptance of this duality a spiritual path?"

BOBBIE SOKOLOWSKI
(MA-P-M3869-K426-78)
"I'm Bobbie, attractive, clean TV, easy going, open, mature, warm, lonely, seeking a deep relationship with a very attractive, tall clean, fit non- or very light smoker/drinker bi-W female or TV/TS with same qualities. Let's meet together with our love of femininity. Berkshire County area. Photo/phone."

CAROLYNNE K. WEST
(MA-P-M4028-K5999-79)
TCNE, DAV, VFW, NALC. 5'5", 135, "Narcissist, transcendentalist; cheerful feminine essence in a comportable masculine vessel. Interested in music, travel, homemaking, dressing & engaging public nearly 100%; offering discreet photography, modest bed & breakfast, & secure social interaction. Single, await the arrival of Prince Charming, irrespective of his gender."

LAWRENCE C.
(MA-P-M4381-K5124-77)
"Age 62-years young. Vegetarian for 15 years, but I do eat some fish. Like classical music, the outdoors & cooking. Interested in the arts & very feminine women. Looking for a close friendship with same interests. Have just moved to the east coast & starting life over again."

COLLEEN BARNARD
(MA-M5399-K11861-78)
MWM. "Been dressing since teens. Wife is aware but not supportive. Member IFGE, SIS. Love all aspects of being feminine: high heels, lingerie. Interests are reading, history and computers. Desire to meet/correspond to share experiences and develop friendships. Would like to hear, have advice on how to make family more accepting. Please write."

RACHEL B.
(MA-M5454-K10563-79)
SWM, CD, 28. "Crossdressing since childhood. Enjoy everything feminine, still in closet, though. Interested in meeting other CD/TVs in NE area for support, friendship, relationship? Try to answer all. Please send photo. Robin S. in CT: lost your letter, please write again."

JOSEPHINE B.
(MA-P-M5544-K12262-81)
SWM, 59, 5'11", 205. "Like to hear from mature CDs in SE Mass & nearby RI. Non-passable. Love dressing at home."

PAULA B.
(W-MA-P-M5571-K1985-77)
Member of Sunshine Club. "Would like to meet others in the life-style to share the great gift of transgenderism. Please write. Love to go out to eat and shop, the club scene, but no drinking or drugs. High on life."

KITTY C.
(MA-M5624-K10919-78)
"OBJECTIVE MARRIAGE. DBF, seeks tall, professional, white TV who is dynamic, humorous, honest, non-submissive, not in the closet, or completely caught up with 'clothes.' I want a *REAL* person who I can grow old with & share new adventures. Send detailed letter with picture."

SUZIE STVENS
(MA-P-M5681-K12555-77)
TV 35, blonde hair, green eyes, 5'8", 140. "Seeking males 35+ to help me explore the fetish scene in the northeast."

MICHELLE C.
(MA-P-M5725-K12671-77)
Bi W TV, professional, loves to dress up. "I like fine wine, travel, computers and-ooh la la!-sexy lingerie. If you would like to know more, drop me a letter."

ALICIA CARLA LONGSTREET
(MA-M5749-K12703-99)
"TALL fun loving post-op TS, with legs that just don't stop. I am interested in a permanent monogamous relationship with a good looking tall man, late 30s to early 50s. I like to ski (snow & water), play golf, play cards (especially bridge), go for long walks, & enjoy the outdoors. I love to cook (some people say I am skilled at it), & I love to cuddle in front of a roaring fire."

KAREN M.
(MA-P-M5818-K2137-78)
WM, 47, 5'7", 135, brown, blue eyes. "Passable. Interested in meeting someone who can walk the walk and shop the shop, in public, of course. But only available for public outings on a limited basis."

LAUREN P.
(MA-M5831-K12802-78)
"Ingenue WM CD, slender, 5'8", 130, youthful 40, blonde/blue. Comfortably closeted, would like correspondence/friendship with nurturing, passable CD/TV/TS/hermaphrodite or female for girl talk and to explore new-found femininity and the alchemy of makeup. Photo would be nice, but will respond to all."

Gift giving is near! Sychronicity Bookstore
(ad on page 1)
now has Gift Certificates! The perfect Gift for that special someone.

RHODE ISLAND (010-027)

ANDREA K.
(RI-M1771-K1934-79)
"5'10", 155, brown eyes, long brown hair, semi-androciallygynized. Interested in Sci-Fi, investing, metaphysics, dressing up full time like a woman, movies, video. I am willing to meet other TV/CD/TSs & talk about things like lingerie, high heels, hosiery, makeup, & becoming a full-time woman, to be known as a woman, & treated as one."

MARYBETH COOPER
(RI-M3744-K8198-77)
"SWM CD, 30s. Looking for support & advice. Would espe like to hear from understanding females. Let's chat!"

VANESSA MURRAY
(RI-M4696-K10385-78)
"47-year-old M CD in a wonderful relationship with enthusiastic lady. Mgr. of book sales for IFGE. Stop in to America's first transgender bookstore so we can meet and chat. My spouse and I send you peace and love."

PATRICIA LYNN ROSS
(RI-P-M5499-K3302-80)
"M2F pre-op TS. Living and

working full time as Patricia for over a year. Love people, will help others with transition."

NEW HAMPSHIRE (030-038)

A. M. GREENE
(NH-M0731-K0277-99)
"Post-op, new-woman. Interests are computers, reading, music, gendered people, belly-dancing & all things feminine. Editor of the *TV-TS Confidential Magazine*. We need cover girls."

SAMANTHA KELLY
(NH-M5321-K11816-78)
"Educated, professional, SW, 34, hetero, varied interests to include my feminine persona. Seeking attractive biological females or transsexuals (or those on the way) who would like to share their feelings, experiences, & insight. Willing to trade pictures & possibly meet. New to this lifestyle & looking for friends."

SHERI SERENA P.
(NH-M5661-K9902-77)
"44, hetero. I'm still in the closet even though I have been wearing women's clothes since age twelve. I put on my first slip, bra & nylons then, & always loved shiny, wet-look type clothes. Thanks for understanding. Would like to correspond with someone."

MAINE (038-047)

JEAN CHURCHILL
(ME-P-M3729-K0164-77)
"Member Transupport, divorced pre-op TS, 42, 5'8", 127, 12, dressing since age 3, out since October 1992. Vegetarian. Don't smoke/drink/drug, spiritually inclined, on speaker's bureau. Interested in Transcendental Meditation, theater, creative writing, nature day trips, fine arts, interior design, solar technologies, being feminine, making friends, socializing, correspondence."

CYNTHIA T.
(ME-P-M5121-K11173-81)
"5'7, MWM, bi-curious, homemaker, children. Wife accepts, but neither understands nor supports. Ready to embrace my natural tendencies. Request help to realize potential. Interested in cooking, wine, photography, music, cars, movies, fetishes, creative role playing. Would love to host TG women, build friendships, learn the art of passing."

VERMONT (050-059)

JOAN MARIE L.
(VT-M0528-K0340-79)
"SWM, hetero CD, 40, 6', full-figured. Love to shop for music. Like cooking, Sci-Fi fantasy, & travel. Real passion for lingerie, esp. bras, panties, teddies, slips, girdles, hosiery & heels. Wish to correspond with TGs."

HELENE H.
(VT-P-M2021-K2488-77)
"Mbr Sunshine Club. Like to hear from other ladies, especially those in the NE who want out of the closet, help, or advice. There are more of us in this neck of the woods than you think. Come out wherever you are."

CLARISSA LYNN MICHAELS
(VT-M4760-K10702-78)
MWM. 50! "Wife is absolutely supportive and comfortable with our community. Married 25 years. Dressing with varied intensity and frequency since early teens. Out of self-imposed closet since '92. Not totally passable, but enjoy being dressed. Looking for like couples as penpals to share experiences. Will answer all. Discretion assured!"

SARAH CARPENTER
(VT-M5678-K12536-77)
TS, tall, middle-aged, married, out for three years. "Like to dress as a professional woman, dining out and shopping. Happy as a female, unhappy as a male. Nonsupportive wife. Will correspond."

CONNECTICUT (060-069)

CARLA E. GOLDSNIDER
(CT-P-M0212-K0374-80)
"SWM, quiet, understanding. Live alone. Member ConnView, COS, *Transgender* and *Tapestry*. Enjoy being en femme, meeting TVs, men, females for parties, going out. Lifetime CD. Very comfortable with myself. Would appreciate photo which I will return with first letter."

ANDREA G.
(CT-M0425-K0357-79)
"Married, 5'11, 170. Interested in sports, good food, reading. Like to develop friendships in the TG community, & welcome correspondence."

MICHELLE KAY
(CT-P-M1490-K0368-78)
"Mbr Tiffany Club, COS. SWM, hetero, TV, 5'10", blue eyes, light brown hair. Quiet & sincere. Enjoy cross-country skiing, music, theater, & travel. Looking for honest, caring, feminine CDs for correspondence or get-togethers."

RAMONA G.
(S CT-P-M1948-K2274-78)
60s, 5'11", 180. "Attended Fantasia Fair seven years, Tiffany Club First Event 6 years. Member COS. Miss Provincetown, 1991. Supportive wife and daughters that know Ramona. Love going to outings and letting the Lady inside of me out. Things that make me strongest as a male are the results of Cross-dressing and being Ramona."

RON THOMPSON
(CT-M2477-K3501-78)
"Compassionate, empathetic gentleman who loves the beauty of a sensual feminine CD. I am a handsome, muscular & a successful professional. I would love to share good wine & food with a beautiful CD who is happy, intelligent, likes music & dancing. Love, Roni."

ANDREA STEVENS
(CT-P-M3214-K6216-82)
Mbr COS. Hetero CD, 5'8", 155, late 40s. "Happily married. Wife aware and tolerant. Interested in competitive cycling and running, reading, golf and skiing. Been dressing fully since early 20s. Attended First Event '95 & '96. Look forward to future gatherings and helping others."

MONICA LEE MARIE
(CT-P-M3506-K7202-77)
"Single, sensual CD; 33, 5'11", 175. Attended the Texas T Party '94 Prefer a genetic (single) woman to share the feminine spirit heart-to-heart and eye-to-eye. Love movies, romantic dinners, conversation, music and shopping. Your place or mine?"

STACI H.
(CT-P-M4520-K4199-77)
"COS, married. Girl at heart who is very friendly & fun-loving. Loves to talk about clothes & fashions with girlfriends & boys who want to be girls. Would love to girl-talk with you, too."

ANN MARTINEAU
(CT-M5091-K8156-77)
"CD (maybe TS) just accepting myself as such. Am seeking friends for support/advice/good times in NE CT. Will respond to all. Live, love, laugh!"

RACHEL COURTNEY
(CT-M5737-K12692-77)
"Would love to correspond with other M2F wannabees in CT or elsewhere. Share your story with me, and I promise to do the same. Would also love to hear from post-ops who could use an understanding friend. I promise to answer every letter. Please drop me a line!"

NEW JERSY (070-088)

LEIGH H.
(NJ-M3024-K5328-78)
SWM CD/TV, 5'10", 50-look, act younger. "Love everything feminine. Clean shaven. Sometimes submissive . . . sometimes not. Love fishing, outdoors, photography, painting, long walks, quiet evenings at home. Good natured. Answer all with photo. Yours gets mine. Come on, you know you want to!"

PAMELA G.
(NJ-RP-M3070-K5682-81)
"Mbr Tri-Ess. MWM, 22T. SO knows but doesn't want to meet her, which leaves me in need of one-on-one help with fashion, makeup, etc. Would like to hear from TG/GG from Bergen Cnty. Will answer all."

BABS C.
(NJ-P-M3219-K6211-77)
Mbr MOTG, Renaissance, Imperial Queens, Secty of GNYGA. "Married with loving, supportive wife. Enjoy fine art, music, standard bred horses, tennis and writing. Travel to NYC, New Hope, Poconos, Aycee and Florida en femme. Cruised to Caribbean entirely en femme. Meet other couples for dinner, clubs, shopping and serious talk."

PORSCHEA ANN P.
(NJ-P-M3297-K6553-77)
"Mbr MOTG, 5'5, 130, size 9, professional & secure TS on hormones & evolving into what I was meant to be: a pretty woman. I enjoy spending time with my friends, dancing & dining. Attractive feminine body, physically fit & starting to pass. Work-minded & advenutrous."

JAN DIANA N.
(NJ-M3908-K4840-80))
"MWM, hetero, 6'1", 200, blue eyes. SO has known for years, but is neither supportive nor accepting, which hurts. Crossdressed since age five with mom's support. Still in closet. Feel very feminine when dressed as the person I want to be. Will answer all. Photo nice."

KAREN KEYES
(NJ-P-M3309-K6595-78)
"Mbr Renaissance. TCNE First Event '93, 4, 5, 6. Attend other events each year. Attractive & feminine when dressed. Open-minded. Wish to meet TGs for friendship & socializing. Photo appreciated."

JANE T.
(NJ-M3487-K7209-78)
MWM, hetero, 6', 196, 51, athletic build, understanding wife. Interested in crossdressing, corsets, B & D, heels and especially RUBBER. "Have a full beard and prefer not to leave the closet for obvious reasons. Enjoy corresponding and will respond to all!"

ELAINE MONROE
(NJ-M3637-K7810-80)
"Love feminine role. Co-Director of MOTG, Mbr Renaissance, Tri-Ess. Attended Coming Together, Be All, Southern Comfort, Fantasia Fair, Paradise in the Poconos. Speaker for TG community. Goal to help others out of closets, & to help the TGs legally & socially. Want to network with those with similar goals."

ARLENE THIEL
(NJ-P-M3777-K8249-85)
"Mbr of Renaissance. Attend many events. 5'9", 155 lb., very smooth, SWM TV, live alone, mature professional. Only hobby is being feminine. Love to entertain & share girl things. Love going out to have fun. I correspond lots & answer all sooner or later. Pictures help."

CAROL ANN LEE
(NJ-P-M4245-K9528-80))
"Member: IFGE(Supp.), Tri-Ess, Sigma Nu Rho(Pres.), Editor of 'News Briefs' Renaissance, AEGIS, Pres. of Greater New York Gender Alliance. Attended '94 Holiday En Femme. Married, hetero, 52, 5'8", 170, supportive wife and three daughters. Dressing since a very tender age. Enjoy going to cultural events, concerts, dinner and, of course, shopping. Used to correspond extensively, but increased responsibilities have slowed replies to almost a complete stop."

FRANCIS F.
(NJ-M5110-K1263-77)
"MWM, hetero. Love dressing stylishly. Black nightgowns & sexy lingerie were made for me. Feel the same? Good, let's chat. Love corresponding. All letters answered."

DENISE BRUNNER
(NJ-P-M4471-K8267-78)
MWM hetero CD late 30s, 5'7". "Vice President of Chi Delta Mu of Tri-Ess. Attended Midnight in Manhattan '94, Holiday En Femme '95. Wife tolerant but not supportive. Enjoy going out en femme. Looking for friendship and to share experiences with."

SUSAN LYNETTE
(NJ-P-M4700-K10391-78)
President Chi Delta Mu chapter Tri-Ess. MWM, wife supportive. "Enjoy going out with friends and helping new girls to get out and meet others just like us. Give me a good reason to go out and I'm gone. I will write back and send pictures."

SISSY L.
(NJ-M5268-K11129-79)
DWM, hetero, submissive, 47. "Seek correspondence and possible relationship with S/DWF any age. I like to wear panties, pantyhose, stockings, garter belts, and girdles. Would like to learn how to walk in heels. Will answer all letters from any females. Only answer men who were caught dressed by spouse."

KATHLEEN M.
(NJ-P-M4719-K10436-78)
"Just recently came out & loving every minute. 5'6", 140. Like photography & music. Want to help sisters with photos. Love being a girl & look forward to meeting other girls like me. Want to hear from you."

JAKE L.
(NJ-P-M4993-K10634-84)6)
"Romantic, educated, professional gentleman, 30s, 6', 180, admirer. Seek true and caring friendship with TS or feminine TG person 21-45. Understanding & supportive of gender issues. Enjoy shopping, fun times & cozy nights. Travel extensively."

DONNA WALSH
(NJ-M5459-K11222-79)
5'9", 150#, single, sincere, sensitive. "Gender aware since childhood. Uncertain of final destination, but sure I am not yet there. Recently returned home after five years in Texas. Well educated, seeking new career opportunities. Enjoy sailing, reading, music, off beat movies and film festivals, travel. Seeking correspondence/friendship with old and new friends."

BRANDY LEE
(NJ-P-M5491-K10141-80))
"Although male by birth, I am female by nature and love being a woman. I seek a slender M2F TG with long hair, age range 18-35. Let's explore our female selves together."

VERONICA W.
(NJ-P-M5675-K12525-77)
SWM, 42, bi-TV, 6', 160. "Longtime crossdresser. Enjoy the thrill of passing and dating as a woman. My interests include cooking, theater, reading. Would like to correspond with other TV/TSs and other interested males or females. Exchange photos with letter."

SUSAN W.
(NJ-P-M5778-K11569-78)
Member MOTG, Renaissance. CD, 42, with flair for dressing sensually, knows how to dress fashionably. "I frequently shop at malls en femme, also dining out, day trips, historic sites, antique and craft shops museums, flea markets and photography. Appreciate autumn leaves, snowfalls, fireplaces and sunsets. Do you have similar interests?"

JILL ANGELIQUE JARIS
(NJ-P-M5817-K10072-78)
39-year-old TV. "Came out of the closet 8 years ago. Hope to become TS someday. Would like to correspond and/or meet with other transgendered sisters."

NEW YORK (090-149)

WINNIE BRANT
(N NY-P-M0228-K0582-99)
"Mbr Tiffany, Tri-Ess, TGIC. Awards: Miss Fantasia Fair. CD, 60+, 6'2". Many interests. Scientifically & culturally oriented. Have attended many CD events. Very busy as president of TGIC, but will try to answer any correspondence."

CONNIE TAYLOR
(W NY-P-M0434-K0657-79)
"Mbr Tri-Ess, Phoenix Society. MWM, elderly, hetero TV, 5'5", 125, supportive wife. Like clean-cut clothes & tall heels. Loves to correspond. If you need somebody to talk to, just write. I really do reply to all letters promptly."

TAMMY D.
(NY-M0775-K0522-79)
MWM, 6'1". "WOULD LIKE TO WRITE TO AND MEET OTHERS INTERESTED IN CD. WOULD LIKE SOMEONE TO MAKE ME MORE PASSABLE."

DELORES M.
(SE NY-P-M0808-K555-84)6)
"Mbr Chi Delta Mu (past president), LIFE, Serenity. Attended Fantasia Fair, Poconos W/E (1st runner-up, Miss Poconos), Coming Together. Married, middle-aged, 5'10", engineer, lifelong TV. Interested in fashion, photography, classic bebop, science, sailing, biking, tennis, autos, & being outdoors. I love the fun part of the scene, derive a lot of pleasure from it."

VICKIE STONE
(SE NY-P-M1035-K0559-79)
"46-y/o CD, attorney, divorced, but recently (re)married a beautiful and supportive lady who gives Vickie emotional support and fashion assistance. Vickie also enjoys song-writing, plays guitar and bass, loves country music. Member LIFE, former member Chi Delta Mu. Former Editor *LIFElines*. Other commitments keep me from being as active as I'd like at the present time."

BONNIE HOWARD
(NY-M1186-K0655-79)
"Size 10, TG businesswoman. Single, well adjusted woman who carries herself with pride & confidence. Silks & suits or shirts & sweats. Welcome to my world."

FRANCINE C.
(NY-M1584-K0631-78)
SWM, 5'10", 190. "Interested in outdoors, reading & fishing. Girl friend supportive. Love the total feminine look to be a passable lady. Interested in corresponding with all, especially in south central NY & northeastern PA."

JULIE ANN C.
(N NY-M1695-K0610-78)
"Mbr TGIC, Albany, NY. Attended Fantasia Fair '78, '88-'93. Hetero CD, 55, 5'9", 183. Interested in family, hiking, camping, Sci-Fi. An over-all outdoors country girl."

STEPHANIE LYNN
(N NY-M1744-K1907-75)
DWM, 44, 180, TV, strong TS feelings. "Love to dress in the more conservative styles. Love the feeling of being a girl. Enjoy computing, playing the keyboard and listening to music. Like to start going out more in the Southern NY and Hudson Valley area."

JUDY H.
(NY-M1920-K2200-78)
"Mbr of LIFE. 43, married. Interested in military history, Sci-Fi. Looking for a friend to talk to, work on improving image."

VICTORIA LOUISE NORRELL
(SE-NY-P-M1960-K2390-78)
"I am beautiful for I am me, I am Victoria & I love life. I am totally energized by living feminine & I am very proud. Class & dignity are my life & tho' I can never be a woman, I will never be anything less than a lady. If you write, I will answer. To all I wish peace . . . of mind . . . of spirit . . . "

KATHERINE H.
(NY-P-M2073-K2139-84))
"Mbr of TGIC in Albany. Attended Fantasia Fair '89, '90, '91, Coming Together in Pitts & Philadelphia. *Donahue Show*, National Gender Lobby Day '95, TG facilitator LGBT Conference '96 at SUNY Albany, graduate student/writer/LGBT activist. Love music, comedy and my softer side."

JENNIFER B.
(NY-P-M2441-K3429-79)
"MWM with supportive wife,

member Eulenspiegel Society. Seek meetings and correspondence with TV/TSs who have a love for lingerie, corsets, feminine costumes and fantasies. Interested in psychology, metaphysics and fashions. Would love to hear from you."

VERONICA MARTIN
(N NY-P-M2482-K3564-78)
"SWM, hetero CD. Enjoy the prissy feeling dressing up in full petticoats, square dance, & party dresses. Still looking for one understanding gender woman in my life."

STEPHANIE JENNIFER W.
(NY-M2732-K4399-79)
Mbr of Tri-Ess.

FRAN B.
(NY-M2781-K4612-78)
SWM CD, 5'9", 154. "Former FI chorus girl. Want to make friends with TSs, including F2M. Love romantic dinners & good conversation. Like to dress in a business woman's outfit. Please only reply if you are a discreet individual."

EMILY C.
(NY-P-M2966-K5109-80))
"MWM, supportive SO. Enjoy family, cooking, crafts, full expression. Love to correspond & exchange ideas & experiences. Have grown considerably thanks to my sisters. Photo exchange encouraged. Let's help each other grow."

KATHY LORRAINE
(NY-P-M2974-K5110-78)
"CD. Can't pass, but to blend in is a realistic goal. 5'13", 180, single, businesswoman. Mbr Tri-Ess, ed. *Buffalo Belles*, Nu Phi Chi newsletter. Glad to help newcomers in any way. No sex letters. Thank you, Kathy."

BRENDA VEE
(LI NY-P-M3089-K595-808)
Mbr: LIFE/B of D. Outreach Drctr, Fantasia Fair '93, '94, '95. SWTG, 45. "Sensitive to the TG community & feel bond to all. Striving for personal best. Supportive SO. Like cooking, dining, fashion & make-up, pen pals & sincere, open-minded people. Love to help "

JOANN S.
(NY-P-M3455-K7096-79)
"Fantasia Fair, Tri-Ess convention in Chicago. Retired, hetero, live alone, dress as often as I like, sometimes for weeks at a time. Interested in world travel (travel every chance I get), photography, fine dining. Would like to hear from people who live on the eastern end of Long Island."

JODIE H.
(NY-P-M3700-K8044-77)
"Que sera sera. What will be, will be. Finally happy with whole self. Married to a beautiful wife, friend and lover. Have great friends in the community. Life is short. Get out and live it like you dream it. Kserasera@AOL.com Have a great day!"

KATRINA RYAN
(NY-M3817-K6258-77)
Mbr Rochester CD Network. MWM, 5'10, 240, BA degree. "I enjoy photography, model RR, cooking & corresponding. A wonderful world of people & experience has helped me greatly to discover much about myself & happiness. I hope to continue my personal journey & growth with the help of others, meeting, sharing & having fun."

ED W.
(NY-P-M3839-K6786-79)
SBM, 38, 6', 240. "Strong, silent type residing on Long Island seeks an attractive local TV/TS/CD to become my main squeeze! Correspondence welcome."

ERICA H.
(NY-P-M3937-K8489-78)
"Mngng Director, Co-Founder NY GIRL & PARTNERS, Renaissance affiliate. Member AEGIS, IFGE, Renaissance. Published *Erica's Book* and *Video Reviews for CDs*. Numerous public outings NYC and east . . . Theatres, museums, upscale dining. Program coordinator NYG&P-Resource Information Gender Theories . . . Supportive girlfriend. Correspondence welcomed. Replies guaranteed."

TAMMIE ANDERSON
(NY-P-M4141-K8935-79)
Mbr Tri-Ess, Chi Delta Mu. "Love to dress & have been going out in public the last two years. Would like to correspond & meet with other TVs in area north of NYC. I am a NYC computer & math teacher."

CATHERINE L.
(NY-M4359-K3186-78)
Mbr COS. MWM, 6'2", 43, hetero CD. "I have been dressing since teens. Came out five years ago. Don't pass too well, but I do go shopping dressed. Would love company or talk on all things feminine. Wife knows but is not supportive."

DIANNE KARRON-SCHWARTZ
(NY-P-M4720-K10443-78)
"Tall (6'), bright (PhD), medical school/university professor, pretty 38-year-old pre-op TS or possibly TG girl seeks friends to go out on the town, visit when on the road. Regular IRC addict. Transgen C-D Forum. Likes dance, aerobics, makeup, opera."

DANIELLE AZCET
(NY-P-M5012-K5795-77)
"Single, never married, shy, conservative, pre-op TS (don't smoke or drink) desires to met others for fun, friendship, & synergy in our femininity. I care. Be happy, don't worry. If I could, I'd be a mommy. Seriously, I hope the future astounds us all!"

ANGEL L.
(NY-M5222-K4611-85)
"SWF, caring, cute, funny, honest, marriage/friendship-minded, monogamous, moralistic, romantic, smart, spiritual, understanding. Smoke/drink/drug/promiscuity/gambling out. Seek same: hetero SWM, CD, even-tempered, non-abusive, 29-36, 5'-5'11". Love comedy, culture, dining, fifties, fun, music, theater, etc."

JANET E.
(NY-P-M5164-K11395-77)
SWM, 47, 5'7", CD living in lower Westchester County. "Looking to meet TVs, would like to meet older gentlemen who know how to treat a lady."

CHRISSY S.
(NY-P-M5195-K11530-78)
SWM, hetero CD, 5'11", 46, engineer. "Enjoy travel, theater, electronics, fashion and shopping. Outgoing with great sense of humor, but very discreet about crossdressing. Prefer the professional career-girl look and the very feminine look. Interested in meeting women from NYC area for friendship/relationship."

CINDY P.
(NY-M5198-K11532-77)
Submissive pre-op TS, 42, 6', 160, blonde hair, blue eyes. "Seek dominant TV/TG/TS for friendship, possibly more. Include sexy letter and photo."

CHRISSIE YORK
(NY-P-M5212-K11564-78)
"Mbr CD Network. WM CD, 5'5", 160. Interested in dressing clubs. Red hair, can pass. Looking for an understanding female & other TG. I will write back. Lifetime CD."

JUDY M.
(NY-M5594-K18174-77)
"MWM mature CD who wishes to remain in the closet. Interested in acting out fantasies including soft bondage and role playing."

GINA DANIELS
(NY-P-M5226-K11619-78)
"Hetero CD size 16, NYC metro area wants to go out with other TGs or mature men to movies, a Broadway show or shopping. Have hundreds of photos. Your photo gets mine."

JEAN ALEXANDER
(NY-P-M5235-K11638-78)
SWM, TV, 40s, 5'10", 175, brown hair, blue eyes. "Hot city girl interested in other ladies, CDs to play. Help me to be a better, more beautiful woman outside and underneath. Good jewelry and great lingerie a must. Love to shop as a girl and dress as a woman. Your pic gets mine."

BOB C.
(NY-M5285-K11734-78)
Member IFGE. "Sincere, caring man seeking friendship and possible relationship with pretty TS or TV in NYC area, but will answer other letters. My interests are computers, reading, writing, oil painting and physical fitness. Please send photo and letter."

TERI SHANNON
(NY-P-M5339-K5768-78)
"Single, sane lovable, young for 40s, pre-op M-F TS with vivid imagination seeks Mr. Right for romantic candle-lit evenings, possibly longer. Well built 30-40s gentleman must appreciate unbridled femininity and support my quest to lose remaining inhibitions. Shapely, 5'10", 165. Not a good correspondent, will travel northern NY. Photo appreciated."

CLEO JONES
(NY-P-M5376-K2860-79)
MWM, hetero, 60+, 5'9". Mbr Buffalo Belles. Rochester CD Network. "Crossdressing since childhood. Wife negative and unaware of my TV life. Love to dress and be feminine. Looking for someone in my area for conversation. Can't afford separate apartment for Cleo. Will answer letters."

VERONICA ANN L.
(NY-P-M5548-K5974-77)
"Free-spirited, humorous, TG on hormones. Go to functions from Cleveland to P-town. Short silky skirts, leather, black stockings, high heels, projecting avant-garde & occ. trashy look. Want letters about attending clubs, events, girl talk, fun."

KRISTINE DANIELS
(NY-P-M5572-K11732-77)
TG, 5'11". "Life's complete when I express the feminine part of my soul. From wearing a T-shirt & jeans to a short leather skirt, black hose & high heels. Love a walk in the woods to wine, dance & romance."

PHYLLIS MOONLADY.
(NY-P-M5622-K10729-80)
"TV, SINGLE, 60, 5'11", 160. PINK LINGERIE LOVER. SEEK F-M, DOMINANT, HIGH TESTOSTERONE WOMEN, DOMINANT M-F OR KIND, VIRILE, POTENT ADMIRER 50-70. AM INTELLECTUAL, DOMESTIC. BE DISEASE-FREE AND LOVE SISSIES. ALL ANSWERED. PLEASE WRITE. DESPERATE FOR LOVE."

NICOLE KELLY
(NY-P-M5679-K12553-78)
"Sexy, sophisticated, bi-TV, 4, 5'8", 145, 10. Seek men, women and passable TVs to share dining, dancing and exploring all facets of being a woman. I love high fashion, glamorous makeup and total femininity. Travel nationwide. Will answer all sending photos. Let's meet in '96!"

CHRISTY-LYNN B.
(NY-P-M5738-K12693-77)
MWM, 42, 5'7", 130. "Slim TV who luxuriates in femme side. Interested in meeting sincere TV/CDs who like quiet evenings, good conversation or socializing with other sisters. Love art, music and just having fun in life. Starting electrolysis. Some travel. Send photo with letter."

WENDI R.
(NY-P-M5816-K0336-78)
44, 5'8", hetero CD 150, 36-29-38. "Closet CD, love to come out, but wife will not understand. Love everything feminine. CD since 12 years old. Love to pass, but I don't think I can. Shy, discreet."

KERRI G.
(NY-P-M5758-K12726-77)
"Single, presentable female/attractive male from Long Island. 35, 5'10", 150. Sharing, honest and mature, yet slightly loopy. Emotionally, physically and spiritually healthy. Enjoy theatre, acting, film, shopping and conversation. Seek mutual encouragement/friendship with like-minded women, regardless of original/current genitalia. Let's go shopping!

CHRISTINA I.
(NY-P-M5792-K7717-78)
"MWM, College ed. Loves party dresses, prom especially bridal, petticoats. Dressing since age 11. Your pic gets mine."

DEBBIE F.
(NY-P-M5798-K6076-78)
Mbr TGIC in Albany. "Interested in friendship or possible relationship. Would like to talk or correspond. I'm 43, big and easy going. Like trains, car racing, and videotaping nature and other interesting events."

JACKIE M.
(NY-P-M5827-K5454-78)
"Divorced, vivacious, outgoing, fun-loving blonde, 40, tall and classy. Mbr of Rochester CD Network. Would like to hear from others (M/F) in NY area. Have been told I look 28 when dressed. Enjoy going dancing in clubs."

DAPHNE T.
(NY-P-M5830-K10948-78)
"Bi TG, refined, intelligent, unconventional, French speaking, true devotee cult of the feminine. Tai Chi, Yoga, many exotic talents. Love nature, domestic bliss, existential soirees, life as Art. Resourceful, loyal, dedicated tigress. Prospecting for mature M/F/TG companion. Will relocate for right Chi."

SHIELLA S.
(NY-M5842-K6544-78)
5'7", 35 years, 140#, white. "Living as a female housewife and on hormones for two years."

L.W.
(NY-M5936-K3917-78)
PPM (64+), good health. "En-

joy socializing, sports, bridge, people with genuine sense of humor and cruise travel. Would enjoy/welcome CD counterpart (M/F) to share pleasures, smiles, etc."

STEPHANIE ANNE SUMMERS

(NY-M5997-K12955-79)

"DWM, 45, CD in closet, reaching out for the first time. Would like to correspond with other CDs."

PENNSYLVANIA (150-196)

BETH STEELE
(PA-M1031-K0663-79)
"Mbr of TransPitt, Cross Roads, TCNE. Be All, Spring & Fall P-town Outings. Tall, thin, dressy, good talker. Interested in dressing up & going out, dinner, malls shopping, & making friends."

ALISON LAING
(E PA-P-M1242-K0733-99)
"Co-Founder, past National Director Renaissance. Chairperson of the Outreach Institute of Gender Studies, Director Fantasia Fair '94, '95, Ms. Fantasia Fair '92. Mbr of AEGIS Board of Directors. Trinity Award 1994. Interested in Native American traditions & community building as related to transgenderism. Love fine dining, good wine, art, crafts, antiques, theatre & travel."

JENNIFER WHITE
(W PA-P-M1722-1880-79)
Mbr TransPitt, Erie Sisters. 5'10", 180, red hair, green eyes. Interested in sports, fashion, writing, photography. "Looking for males for escorts, CDs to go out with, etc. Nothing bizarre, please."

VERONICA MARTIN
(PA-M2482-K3564-78)
"SWM hetero CD. Enjoy dressing in full petticoats & square dance dresses. Would love to go square dancing. Interested in meeting understanding women. PS: Barbara (genetic girl), you left out your return address in letter."

MICHELLE DOUGLAS
(SE PA-M2623-K3889-79)
MWM, 41, 5'10", 185. "Enjoy fine lingerie, satin dresses, & high heels. Married to accepting & helpful wife. I'm a novice, & have never been out. Would like to correspond with other married couples concerning CD relationships."

PHYLLIS JEAN W.
(W PA-P-M2770-K4563-83)
5'11", 165, CD with strong TS tendencies. "Now 40-something. I paint, play guitar and am struggling with computers. I enjoy jazz and rock, and occasionally classical music. I am a poor correspondent due to my heavy schedule."

JENNY W.
(PA-P-M2891-K4869-80)
Single CD, 34, 5'6", 140. "Passing & feeling wonderful in Philadelphia. Professional, fun & outgoing with diversified interests. Would love to hear from all sincere, especially an understanding female for friendship/relationship. I travel a little. Talk to you soon!"

S. KRISTINE JAMES
(PA-M3228-K6289-78)
"Founder Cross Dressers International in New York City, Director of Moonlight in Manhattan. Travel extensively & would love to hear from you."

WILMA ANNE SILVER
(PA-P-M3388-K6832-78)
"Single, retired, hetero CD. Have time to refine femme self. Looking for support in joining orgs & attending functions. Would also like to find a GG to enjoy the best of both worlds."

D. MCKAY
(PA-P-M4296-K8817-78)
Mbr TransPitt, Tri-Ess. 5'11', 145, 10. "Presentable, single, progressive, hetero 'Dresser,' organizer of Travelers Express, a central PA group of confident out folks in 100% public places. NOT cross or trans. GGs always welcome. Femme photo gets response. Accept and enjoy who you are without shame."

KRISTEN ASHLEY EMBERS
(PA-P-M5145-K11340-78)
SCD, 32. "Out a few times & love it! Interests are shopping, movies, stock market, sports, music. Seek correspondence with understanding female for friendship, possible relationship. Also seek letters from other sisters. Letter with photo gets mine.

ERICA EDWARDS
(PA-P-M4505-K9143-77)
Mbr Renaissance. CD, 6', 180, 12/14. "Want letters/meeting others who appreciate the finer things in life. Enjoy shopping, dining & good conversation. Still working on Erica, her image now that of a stylish, sophisticated woman. Let's talk."

KAREN K.
(SE-PA-P-M4593-K9998-78)
Single TG, 6', 160. "Want to make friends with other TG/GG. Like fine dining, shopping, traveling, living as a she-male, glamour, theatre, seductive fashions, makeup, high heels & all that is feminine."

CHARLES M.
(PA-M4774-K10509-82)
SW M-F hetero CD, 5'10", 260, Mbr TCNE. "Like to help hetero F2M CDs discuss men's traditions during weekend meetings in PA Poconos, ABE area or Central NJ. Helps if you like Japanese & Chinese cuisine."

ELLEN S.
(PA-P-M5319-K11011-78)
SWM, 46, Bi-TV. "Been cross-dressing since my teens. Like to be out of the closet more, but fear I would not pass. Like to write & meet other TV/TS/CDs for friendship or relationship. Love wigs, makeup & being feminine. Discreet. Will try to answer all."

The IFGE is a 501 (c) 3 non-profit organization providing outreach to and for the transgender community. Among its many other activities, IFGE publishes & distributes gender-related books, magazines and tapes.

Profits from all sales go toward promoting self-acceptance, public understanding, and inclusion of greater gender diversity in society at large. Our office is located at 123 Moody Street, Waltham, MA 02154.

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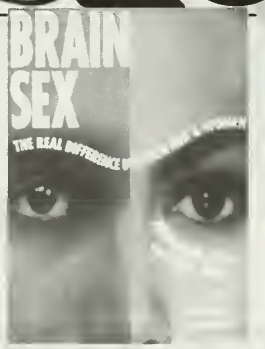

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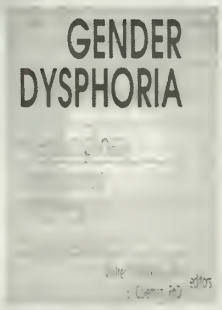

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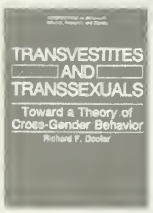

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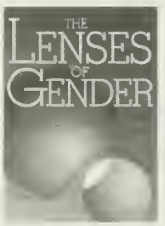

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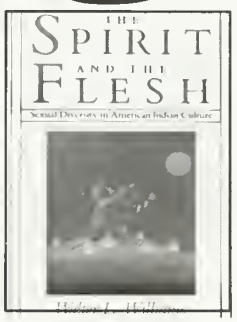

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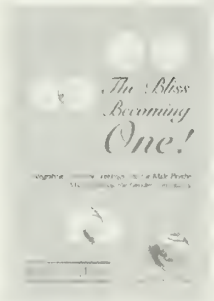

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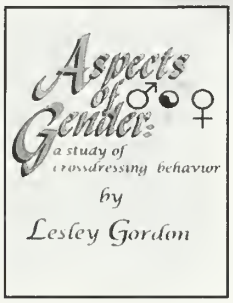

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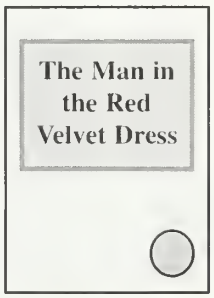

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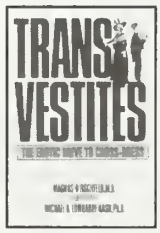

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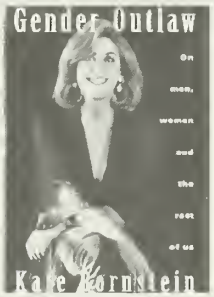

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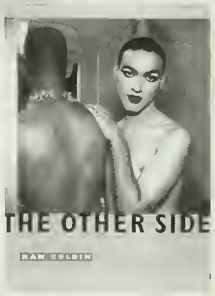

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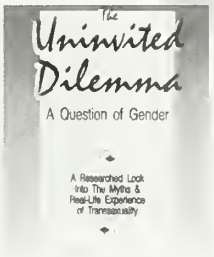

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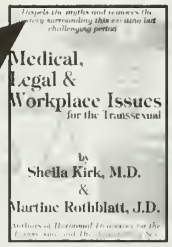
Transsexual

New



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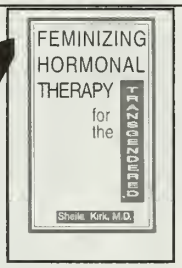

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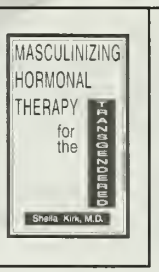

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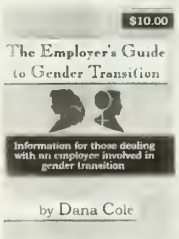

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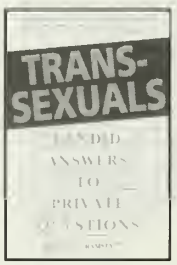

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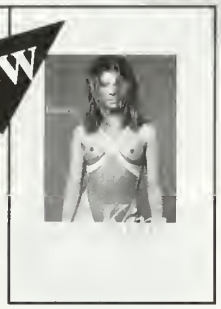

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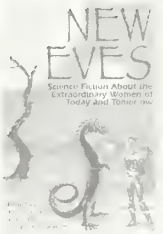

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Edited by Jean Marie Stine, J. Frank, F. J. Ackerman. 30 + sci-fi stories from 1918-1995-including M2F and F2M, CD, TS, etc. by Ursula LeGuin, Marion Zimmer Bradley, Anne McCaffrey.

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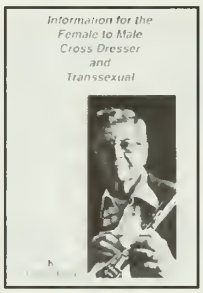
F2M Library



Information For The Female To Male Crossdresser & Transsexual

by Louis Sullivan

Addresses the unique issues and needs of the F2M. Includes passing tips, information on hormones, sex reassignment, & more.

Out Of Print

Stone Butch Blues

a novel by Leslie Feinberg

Woman or Man? That's the question that rages around Jess, clouding her life and her identity. This tale of Jess learning to accept the complexities of being a transgendered person in a world demanding simple explanations is insightful.

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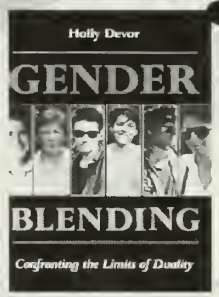

Gender Blending

Confronting the Limits of Duality

by Holly Devor, PhD

A major contribution to the understanding of gender. Working with a small group of females who were frequently mistaken for men, the social construction of gender and its implications are examined.

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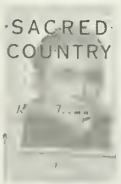

Sacred Country

by Rose Tremain

F2M Novel. "Skilled, intelligent, a sheer delight, storytelling at its best." The *Washington Post.*

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plus $3.00 S&H

S/HE

by Minnie Bruce Pratt

What do gestures of masculinity and feminity have to do with being a man or a woman? This intimate search by a ***partner of a transgender*** is powerful in its awe of human potential.

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plus $3.00 S&H

From Female To Male

The Life of Jack Bee Garland

The fascinating story of a brave and compassionate soul, a pioneer explorer who ventured across gender boundaries before the turn of the 20th century.

Out Of Print

IFGE Audio

New

Transsexual Life

(audio)

Read by Nancy Nangeroni

What causes TS, how to get therapy, hormones, living full-time as a woman, SRS and beyond (from the pages of *Transgender/Tapestry*)!

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Masculinity, Femininity and Crossdressing

(audio)

Read by Alison Laing

Everything the CD needs to know: the blessings of CD, coming out to spouses, passing tips, & much, much more (from the pages of *Transgender/Tapestry*).

#230
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Feminizing Your Voice:

How to Talk Like a Woman

(audio)

A compendium of tips, tricks and practical instruction for every M2F TG individual.

#231
$15.95
plus $3.00 S&H

Available In January 1997

New

GenderTalk:

Episodes of Nancy Nangeroni's hit talk show.

Running time: 60 minutes

Vol. #1 (audio)
"Transgender"
2 episodes of Nancy Nangeroni's hit talk show, with Minne Bruce Pratt, Leslie Feinberg, and Kate Bornstein.

(# 220) $9.95
plus $3.00 S&H

Vol. #2 (audio)
"Crossdressing"
2 episodes of Nancy's hit talk show.

(# 221) $9.95
plus $3.00 S&H

Vol. #3 (audio)
"Intersexuality"
2 episodes of Nancy Nangeroni's hit talk show with Cheryl Chase & Dr. Anne Fausto-Sterling.

(# 222) $9.95
plus $3.00 S&H

Hormonal Treatment For The Transsexual

by Dr. Sheila Kirk

An overview for the professional. In-depth information about appropriate evaluation and monitoring of both the male-to-female and female-to-male patients. Medications and regimens, bibliography. Audiocasette, 70 min.

#217
$19.95
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Video Library

New

The Operation

The Operation

(video)

Delayed Delivery

Tape version of famed SRS surgeon Eugene Schrang's slide presentation on the "sex change" operation.

#160

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New

Hollywood Makeup Secrets

(video)

Jim Bridges

The makeup artist for *Penthouse* and *Dynasty* tells M2F TGs how to use cosmetics to feminize the male face.

#201

$32.95

plus $3.00 S&H

New

Bridges to Beauty

(video)

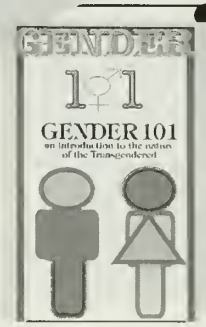
Jim Bridges

Considered one of the best makeup videos for M2Fs ever made. Includes accessories as well. By the man who makes CDs, TSs, and DQs look so fabulous!

#202

$36.95

plus $3.00 S&H



Gender 101

An Introduction to the Nature of theTransgendered; a video produced by IFGE. TV/TS/TG/SO? Through the shared experiences of some of the leaders in the gender community, the viewer gains understanding of the spirit of the transgendered.

1 VHS videocassette 40 minutes.

#150

$29.95

plus $3.00 S&H

Excellent!

What Sex Am I ?

Directed by Lee Grant

This film explores all aspects of gender identity: male-to-female and a female-to-male transsexual and cross-dressing. **VHS videocassette.**

#107

$49.95

plus $3.00 S&H

Metamorphosis: Man Into Woman

A documentary following Gary through a two year transition into Gaby. Featured on PBS. 58 min. **VHS videocassette.**

Just Reduced

#102

$39.95

plus $3.00 S&H

Video Library

Girl Talk

"Melanie Speaks" On Developing a Female Voice

Delayed Delivery

by Melanie Ann Phillips

This program provides you with all the steps needed to find your female voice. A valuable tool for improving and conditioning your newfound voice. 1 **VHS videocassette** 40 minutes.

#148

$24.95

plus $3.00 S&H

New

Gender Identity

Variations of Expression

Thorough explanation of transgenderism, filmed in a college classroom. Noted sexologist, Dr. Jayne Thomas, herself a transsexual, and Professor Toby Green are joined by 5 "living experts" who have and are dealing with this real life adjustment problem.

#203

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Husbands & Wives, Best Friends & Lovers

Face-to-face discussions with crossdressers and their wives & partners as they explain how they deal with crossdressing in their relationships. 1 VHS **videocassete**, 83 minutes, produced by Donna Mobley.

#101

$29.95

plus $3.00 S&H

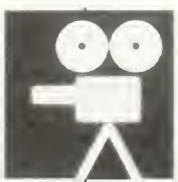
What Is Femininity?

by Alison Laing

(#106)

$30.00

plus $3.00 S&H



Ladylike Deportment:

by Paula Jordan Sinclair

(#105)

$30.00

plus $3.00 S&H

Speaking As a Woman

by Alison Laing

(#103)

$30.00

plus $3.00 S&H

Coping With Crossdressing

by JoAnne Roberts

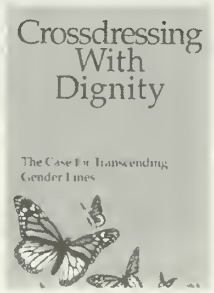
One of the best introductory videos for CDs and their loved ones.

(#204)

$30.00

plus $3.00 S&H

Crossdressing



Crossdressing with Dignity:

The Case for Transcending Gender Lines

by Peggy J. Rudd, EdD

"Can a man transcend gender lines and maintain self-worth and dignity?" 800 CDs surveyed by the author of *My Husband Wears My Clothes*. Addresses conflicts and provides solutions.

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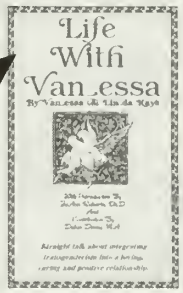
$12.95
plus $3.00 S&H

New



Life with Vanessa:

Straight Talk On Integrating TG into a Loving, Positive Relationship.

Vanessa and Linda Kay

The title says it all. The community's newest bestseller. A must for all TG people and their partners.

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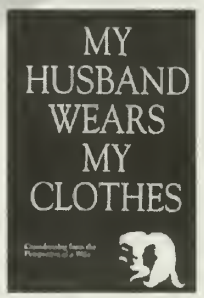
$10.00
plus $2.50 S&H



My Husband Wears My Clothes

by Peggy Rudd, EdD

"Clothes don't make the man," has never had greater meaning. Dr. Rudd, wife of a CD, writes with emotion. Her credibility comes from her educational background.

#31
$14.00
plus $3.00 S&H

How to be a Woman Though Male

by Virginia Prince

A guide to aid the novice male in dealing with the basics of crossdressing.

#23
$14.00
plus $3.00 S&H

The Transvestite and His Wife

by Virginia Prince

All the problems and pleasures of transvestism discussed in detail—as they affect the marital relationship.

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$12.00
plus $3.00 S&H

Understanding Crossdressing

by Virginia Prince

Dr. Prince explains crossdressing. Her years of experience and her vast knowledge is important to us all. She is a pioneer still contributing and participating.

#22
$12.00
plus $3.00 S&H

CDS Publications

Art & Illusion Vol. 1
Face & Hair
(#026) ***$15.00***
plus $3.00 S&H

Art & Illusion Vol. 2,
Fashion & Style
(#040) ***$15.00***
plus $3.00 S&H

Art & Illusion:
Basic Makeup Video
(#136) ***$30.00***
plus $3.00 S&H

Art & Illusion:
Tricks & Tips Video
(#104) ***$30.00***
plus $3.00 S&H

by
JoAnn Roberts

Transsexual Survival Guide 1
To Transition & Beyond
JoAnn Altman Stringer
(#041) $15.00
plus $2.50 S&H

Transsexual Survival Guide 2
For Family, Friends & Employers
by JoAnn Altman Stringer
(#117) $10.00
plus $2.50 S&H

Speaking as a Woman
by Alison Liang
(#029) $10.00
plus $2.50S&H

ID Management for the Transsexual
Dallas Denny
(#154) $15.00
plus $2.50 S&H

LadyLike: For Classy Crossdressers

A Tasteful pictorial magazine with fascinating interviews and columns.
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BARBARA D.
(PA-P-M5151-K9319-78)
DWM, 30s, tall, thin, hetero TV. "Love fashion & modeling. Enjoy the challenge & magic when the clothes, accessories, & makeup form a convincing transformation. My interests include music, art, cooking, & fitness. Would like to hear from accepting females & other TV/TSs."

DONNA GRAHAM
(PA-M5727-K12673-77)
Single bi-TV or S, 25, 5'10", 155. "Dressing on and off for 13 years. Always felt feminine, but not yet out. Live in Philadelphia area and love traveling. Major interest is music. Would love to correspond with others. Will answer all letters."

WILMA G.
(PA-M6042-K13139-79)
DWM, 60, bi-TV. "Been cross-dressing since age 12. Like to write, meet and visit with other CD/TVs for friendship or relationship. Inexperienced in makeup, nails, etc. Would like to date and dance as Wilma."

DELAWARE (197-199)

PHYLLIS VANETTA LARSON
(DE-P-M0931-K0742-78)
"Gracious lady active in Tri-Ess, IFGE, Renaissance Mtgs. Photographed TCNE's Awards Banquets '90-'94. Married to an understanding, beautiful & gracious SO. Self-employed, often dress at home & office, dine out dressed. Electrolysis completed. Sail, pilot, Church. Reside in S. Del. All answered."

AUDREY J. STEELE
(DE-P-M2434-K3366-78)
Mbr Renaissance, Tri-Ess. "To all who have written, please forgive me, I just could not keep up. Thank you all! I come and go dressed anywhere, so I'm out there, and very lucky to have met the people of each organization. I hope and pray that I can and have been of some help to others."

BRENDA LYNN GRAY
(DE-P-M5215-K2009-78)
Single CD, 5'7", sz 8. Mbr Renaissance. "Comfortable with my male & fem self. Love going out dressed. Enjoy making friends. Like to hear from sisters. Photo appreciated."

DAVETTA LEIGH MAGNESS
(DE-P-M5698-K12609-77)
TV/TG, soon to be TS. Engineer, teacher and musician. "Born a true hermaphrodite, altered to male at age 16. Enjoy being female. Enjoy TV and TG company. Like classical music jazz, big band, art. Enjoy soccer & football, basketball, fishing. Open minded to a point. Like to correspond with other TV/TSs."

ELIZABETH C.
(DE-P-M5733-K12679-77)
MWM, 38, 6', 175. "Interested in corresponding with others. Wife very supportive. Love looking sexy, but also love hunting and fishing. Discretion a must."

MARYLAND (o26-218)

KATHERINE HUNT
(MD-M4905-K10858-80)
"MWM, mature tall bi-CD. SO not completely understanding of CD life-style. However, I love every minute of my other life. Interests are stock market, golf, history and the outdoors. Also, lingerie and all that is feminine. Would love to hear from other CDs in the MD/DC area."

MICHELLE HART
(MD-P-M5037-K10071-77)
Bi-TV, 36, 5'11, 170. "Enjoy being completely feminine. Interests are jazz/classical music, fine arts, wines & restaurants. Would like to correspond & meet other TV/TSs. Love sexy lingerie. Will exchange photos & videos. Photo if possible."

VIKKI W.
(MD-P-M5392-K1003-79)
CD, 5'11", 45+. "After a lifetime of suppression, repression, and depression, Vikki is finally emerging from her secret closet. She would love to communicate with anyone interested in sharing similar experiences and feelings."

PAULA D.
(MD-M5543-K11918-80)
Crossdresser, 43 years old, 5'11", 170#. "Widowed with three-year-old son. Like a butterfly emerging from my cocoon and loving life. Love to shop, watch movies, nature walks, personal development. No problem with going out or staying in. ISO correspondents and friendship. The truth will set us free."

BARBARA A.
(MD-P-M5801-K12777-78)
"Experienced TV, 5'10", 145, 40s. I'm interested in meeting other very feminine TVs in MD/DC/CA/CO/FLA. Would also like to hear from those with an interest in the TG life-style. SASE and photo please."

VIRGINIA (220-246)

LINDA C.
(VA-M0703-K0784-78)
Mbr of Tri-Ess. 5'8", 150, MWM, hetero TV. "Interested in women's fashions, gourmet cooking, photography, music. Enjoy meeting, corresponding with TVs."

SHEILA W.
(VA-P-M2276-K8132-77)
"40, 6', 190, green eyes. Interested in photography, exchanging photos. Try to be a god correspondent, not always successful. Enjoy meeting others. Always trying to be better. Advice welcome."

TERRY MOORE
(VA-M5857-K1200-78)
"Want to have real breasts. Need info on who will provide hormones. Thank you for helping."

KIMBERLY C.
(N VA-P-M2300-K2981-82)
"TG. Have been crossdressing for 40 years. Last attended Southern Comfort 1994. Mbr Virginia's Secret, TGEA. Will exchange experiences of coming out to family & business associates. Will answer all."

DIANE PARIS
(VA-P-M2460-K3426-77)
"MWM TV. Feels best when dining, shopping, at a disco or a piano bar with wife & TV friends or couples. She's found that confidence gains respect & dignity from the public. She & her wife are always ready to help other TVs or couples with the issues around this lifestyle."

HEIDI ANN COBART
(VA-P-M2522-K3686-80)
"Very bi-curious, member Tri-Ess, Virginia's Secret, TS/TV?-still trying to figure out. Would love to meet other passable Bi-TS/TVs for romance and fun. Your photo with phone number gets mine. Looking to make new friends in the Richmond, VA area."

MADELEINE BERMAN
(VA-P-M5585-K10270-77)
"Blooming TS, trying to find my niche in the world & interested in hearing from everyone. Well educated, artistic & creative (musically, visually & otherwise). Work as a free-lance fashion designer. Like all arts, music & literature. Accomplished in all the domestic sciences. Your photo gets mine."

SAMANTHA W.
(VA-P-M3052-K5630-78)
"Mbr Virginia's Secret, Tri-Ess. MWM, hetero TV, 70s, retired, 5'9", 165. Interested in amateur radio, sailing, wood carving, classical music, ballet, dressing, shopping. Suppressed TV from boyhood to 1991 when I discovered Virginia's Secret & IFGE. Divorced & remarried wonderful supportive widow. Welcome letters from other TV's."

SHARON LEE
(VA-M3185-K6110-78)
MWM. 54, 6', 185, recently retired, long time CD. "Supportive wife. Just starting to go out, but a way to go to pass. Interested in gardening, computers, horology. Enjoy my feminine side. Will answer all letters."

DIANA AUSTIN
(VA-P-M3283-K6478-78)
"Do you enjoy the finer things in life? Art, sculpture, music, fashion, stimulating conversation, fine wine, and a flair for the unusual are just a few of my interests. I am very warm, sincere, and honest soul waiting to hear from you. Let's explore the possibilities! All CD/TS/GGs welcome."

DIANE VAN HORNE
(VA-P-M4730-K10459-78)
D, 35, tall, slender, discreet. "Wish to correspond with all who are in need of LSF. I answer every letter, but give priority to those with a photo. Have enjoyed making all my new friends, hope to continue to meet more. You have helped make '94 the best year of my life."

DAVE B.
(VA-M4881-K5926-79)
Bi-MWM, 43, 6', 180, blonde, blue eyes. "Considered handsome with a warm and friendly disposition. Travel US, Canada and overseas. Wish to meet a TV/TS who desires a special relationship. Full of fun and mutual respect. Photo with your response appreciated."

DEBRA DAVIES
(VA-P-M5087-K10926-77)
MWM, 5'11", 205. "Dressing since age 15. Love to get out & about, but opportunities are restricted. Will respond to all (prefer photo)."

BARBARA K.
(VA-P-M5377-K10458-79)
WM bi-CD, retired. "Enjoy fem side, esp. high heels, nylons & sexy lingerie. Likes: fine music, wine & cooking. Love to dress. Want to correspond & meet with TGs. Send photo."

DANIELLE MEADOWS
(VA-P-M5455-K10619-79)
"One life is all we have. We each live it as we believe in living it, then, soon, it is gone. Do not surrender who you are and live without your beliefs. Transgendered people are spiritual people. As you pursue physical changes and emotional comforts, pursue spiritual ones too!"

GWENDOLYN D.
(VA-P-M5553-K5080-80)
"MGM-TV interested in drag shows and joining a TV/TS support group. 23 years old, 155#. Would like to meet FIs to help me with getting into the drag performance business. Photos exchanged. Love to write."

WESTVIRGINIA (246-268)

DEE DEE HENSELL
(WV-P-M2329-K3026-77)
Mbr Kappa Beta. "CD looking for GG who wants relationship. Like to keep house & make a home for that special girl. Want to learn to sew, & go to cosmetology school. Working as a domestic. Like to meet & correspond."

KAY LIGHTNER
(WV-P-M2435-K3374-78)
"Married CD, supportive SO. We enjoy being out and about. Attended Be All & Paradise in the Poconos. Started vacationing en femme & coming out to select straight friends. I am an avid sewer & cartoonist. Write me."

DEBBIE LUCAS
(WV-M3393-K6842-79)
"Debbie is in her 40s, 5'6", has an understanding wife, and is passable. Debbie is a member of IFGE, Tri-Ess, Cofounder of WV's first support group, and is currently the President and Founder of The Valley Girls (TVG), a new support group in Charleston, the state capital."

STEVIE LYNN
(WV-P-M5769-K12733-78)
Single CD, TS tendencies, 40s, 5'9", 162. "Pass fairly well. Television engineer, rock singer, song-writer, musician. (Rabid Stevie Nicks fan.) Small home studio. Several gender songs. Trying for mainstream music success as a woman. Need help with feminine singing voice. Speaking voice okay. Know any record producers?"

NORTH CAROLINA (270-289)

FRANCES T.
(NC-P-M1245-K0823-78)
Mbr TVC, Tri-Ess. Participant Coming Together, Be All. Late 30s, 5'7", 140. "Pass very well. Enjoy shopping chatting with store clerks, beauty personnel, etc., who know me. Flew dressed to my last convention. Look forward to doing it again next year. Browse in women's magazines & dress catalogues. Not a good correspondent."

BOBBI F.
(NC-M3645-K7953-78)
"WM, hetero CD with developing case of lapitis (currently 38) 50s. Am a demographer, market researcher with interest in communicating with as many as possible. Enjoy classical organ music, history, railroads. Travel extensively throughout NC."

JACKIE J.
(NC-P-M4048-K8273-78)
SWMCD, 40ish, 5'9", 165. "Will try to respond to all sisters who have written. Bear with me! Still in closet. Someday soon, hope to open the door! Very active in community & spend much time with SO (doesn't know, but I think suspects). Ex-military (MOS 7562). Interests: gardening, fishing, aviation, hunting."

PAMELA ROGERS
(NC-P-M4235-K9428-80)
"This Carolina girl Adores everything about being a lady. Enjoy sending letters & photos to friends from all over. Love the humorous side of our transgendered community, & proud to be a part of it. Being Pamela is not something I do, it is a part of who I am. Write soon!"

EMMA S.
(NC-M4864-K6443-79)
"Emma took an ax and gave her closet door 40 whacks. When she had done, in came a ray of sun. I'm 35, SWM, bi-tendencies, 265, out with public, not with family. Searching for friends. Prefer '50s glamour look, especially gowns foundation garments (collector), and cigarette holders. Please write".

LISA R.
(NC-M4936-K10950-79)
"TV/TS seeks employment in US. Bachelor degree Agronomist. Currently quality assurance lab technician. Laboratory or botanical opportunities preferred, but open to alternatives."

DANA D.
(NC-M5371-K11632-78)
"Very active member of Tri-Ess. Member of Tau Chi and Kappa Beta, IFGE and AEGIS. Very active writer."

A.G.
(NC-M5485-K12085-80)
WM, 38, 5'11" 170#. "Seek feminine, passable TV/TS for friendship and possible relationship in NC. Educated professional desires that special someone who wants to be totally treated as a lady. Willing to host. Photo phone gets reply."

SOUTH CAROLINA (290-299)

GARY H.
(SC-M3929-K8445-78)
"Attractive DWM, 30, 5'11", 170, desires a relationship with a sincere, attractive feminine TS. I am not looking for just a good time, but romance. Picture and phone appreciated."

TRISH J.
(SC-M4698-K9264-82)
MWM hetero, 5'10", 189 & losing, 16, 36. "Crossdressing since childhood. Married to supportive wife. Must be careful for family. Want to correspond with others. Haven't been out yet, but thinking about support group. Waiting for your letter so I can write back."

SUSAN TRISLER
(SC-P-M5668-K8125-77)
"MWM-F CD, 5'5, 130, blonde, hazel, passable? Attended Spring Cotillion, participant in Miss Cotillion Pageant '96. Love slinky outfits & lingerie. SO understands femme side. Wish to meet/correspond with CDs and/or wives in the TG community & local area. Desire to dress with other CDs, join support group & get out to meetings. Love femininity."

GEORGIA (300-319)

MICHELLE WEST
(GA-M1486-K0842-79)
"Yankee transplant has flourished in the Sunny South. Nourish my soul with books & music, my body with exercise, both with Tai Chi, & my bank account in the computer world. Lifelong CD, coming farther out by leaps & creeps Will answer

all. (No come-ons.)"

LEE D.
(GA-M4931-K10078-79)
"Post-operation FtM seeking others to share comments, advice, etc. Also seeking medical doctor in the southeast that can do the complete process. Thanks!"

STEPHANIE G.
(GA-P-M5122-K9875-77)
41, slender, attractive bi-CD, open minded, open heart, massage therapist. "Supportive wife. Very sensual and giving. Enjoy photos, correspondence and fantasies. Interested in meeting other TV/TS/CDs, androgynous men. Send photo with letter. Becoming more femme every day. Deeply spiritual (spiritual hedonist)."

GINGER SCHOENHERR
(GA-M5337-K2131-78)
"SWM CD, very feminine, spend about 75% of time as a woman. Love old movies, good conversation & being a woman. Seek female or other CD to explore the feminine world."

FLORIDA (320-340)

PETRA DAWN
(FL-P-M1314-K0817-77)
Member Tau Lambda, IFGE, AEGIS. "Married, 6'2", 190, just turned 40, but feel like life is just beginning. Working hard to understand where I am going on this glorious gender journey. Interested in hearing from others in the north FL/south GA area."

VANESSA B.
(C FL-P-M1396-K0931-77)
Mbr Central FL Sisters, Southern Belles. 5'5", 150. "Want to meet sisters & go to outings/clubs. I accepted my feminine self. Can't get enough of Vanessa. Would like to be more passable and go to straight places."

CLAUDIA K.
(FL-M1833-K1010-83)
Member Crossport, CFS, Sigma Epsilon. Attended Be All, Texas T Party, Southern Comfort. Interested in sunshine, my home, travel, still & video photography. "Enjoy meeting new people. Am anxious to help CDs of any age out of the closet and into a support group."

DIANNE WHITE
(FL-P-M4025-K5217-78)
"TS on hold. Member MOTG. Fun, enjoyable, dateable. Let's party. 60, slim figure, size 9, nice legs. Love dressing stylishly, youthful and provocatively. Spike heels, tight skirts and black nightgowns were made for me. Feel the same? Fantastic! Let's chat. Love corresponding on any subject. All letters answered."

NANCY MCDERMOTT
(FL-P-M5456-K10695-79)
"MWM, hetero TV, wife knows. Want to write/visit like-minded TGs/couples. Can travel state. Contemporary dresser, average looks. Will answer all & would like to be a woman with you & will share costs. I don't drink/drug/smoke."

DENISE B.
(FL-P-M4035-K8736-78)
39-year-old CD. "Married. Intolorant wife, 5'10", 160. Attended '93, '94 Be All, '94 Southern Comfort. Eclectic tastes, particularly fond of shopping. Active Tri-Ess BBS. Discovered my femme side only two years ago. It has brought to me my life's highest highs & lowest lows."

PAMELA ANN B.
(FL-P-M4695-K10384-78)
"DWM, Have been dressing for years, but need help getting past the front door. Passable maybe. second opinion welcome. Enjoy all sports, photography, music, dressing as much as possible. Photo appreciated. Answer all."

MICHELE NICOLE H.
(FL-M4947-K10221-79)
"Early 40s, 6', DWM TV with TS tendencies. Seek other TV/TS for support and help. Very well educated. Love to kayak, but have no friends. Would like to meet new friends with similar interests. Can travel on weekends. Would like to go out in public once I am over being shy."

DAWN ELDRIDGE
(FL-M5353-K2034-78)
TS, 49 years old. "In need of correspondence with others. Would like to exchange thoughts about life. Interests vary from music to stock market. Will answer all letters."

JAMIE L.
(FL-P-M5405-K2096-79)
"MW TV, mid-40s, 5'7", 145 lbs. Wife totally supportive, understanding and active participant in femme persona fascination and desires. Recently moved to Orlando area. Interested in meeting and socializing with other TVs or couples. Travel up and down the east coast."

ERIN ANN EDWARDS
(FL-M5465-K11860-79)
"Looking for support in M-F, WPB area. Pre-op, ready for real life test. Will enjoy phone or personal contact."

MICHELLE PHILLIPS
(FL-P-M5470-K1169-79)
"Lifelong CD with TS tendencies. Finally out and loving life. Want to make new friends in the gender community. Enjoy corresponding with others. Love all things feminine, shopping, dining out and night life. 5'9", 145. Planning to start hormones soon. Member Tri-Ess. Attended Paradise in the Poconos '95."

SAMANTHA B.
(FL-P-M5606-K3630-80)
M2F, 35 years old, 5'9, 134. "Cross-living since Feb. '95. Seeking serious relationship. Request full-length photo from anyone interested, along with letter. Planning on having SRS very soon. Have high moral standards. Especially believe in honesty and openness."

MICHELLE SHARP
(FL-P-M5756-KI2724-77)
"SWM bi, 50, CD since childhood. Honest, discreet, playful adventuress. Adore femininity. Interested in music SCUBA, plants, friends, conversation and laughter. Wish to meet, converse and/or correspond with TV/TS, men or women with inquisitive minds and playful spirits."

SARAH C. JAMES
(AL-P-M4764-K10766-78)
"DWM early 50s (feel much younger!), 5'8", 38, teacher, author. Coastal Alabama. "I love partying, all kinds of dancing (especially being led), reading, movies, traveling, dressing nicely, meeting new people, having new adventures, receiving and answering letters. I love being a woman. Want to share? I answer all letters."

LIZ FONTAINE
(TN-M247I-K3494-78)
"Loving, lifelong crossgendered TV, MWM, seek pen pals for sharing thoughts and feelings, childhood experiences and photos. Passable, trim, 5'8", I0-I2, 40s, brunette (own hair). Especially fond of hairstyling, lingerie and sleep wear, makeup, girl talk, and all things feminine. Answer all, request photo."

LORRIE RENAE T.
(TN-P-M4655-K7766-78)
5'II", blue eyes, blonde hair often, hetero CD. "Single & in closet. Want to meet an understanding GG for possible relationship. Also like to meet other CDs for help promoting feminine self."

MICHELLE KAUFMAN
(FL-P-M5723-K12668-77)
"I am not a joiner and prefer a few close friends. I drink, smoke and like to have a good time. I'm attractive and pass well. I'm somewhat of an artist and value literacy, intelligence and a progressive attitude. I'm not religious. I'm comfortable with crossdressing, as is my wife, and have been out of the closet for more than seven years. I'd like to hear from other TV/TSs with a similar outlook."

ALABAMA (350-369)

PAULA R.
(AL-P-M2820-K4698-80)
Member of Montgomery Institute, NOW, LWV, ACLU. "Attended Southern Comfort '9I, 2, 3. DWM, 6I, 5'I0", I74, TG-TS? Interested in boats, cooking, theater, music, collectibles, Civil War buff, active in environmental groups, local historical preservations. Semiretired. Can travel at will."

TENNESSEE (370-384)

TERRI CANNON
(TN-MI293-K1505-78)
"MWM, 5'I1", 40+ (and holding), ex-Californian relocated near Knoxville with disapproving spouse and purged wardrobe. Rebuilding Terri gradually, but hoping for contacts/correspondence. Would delight in a new girlfriend/soulmate. In addition to smooth legs and heels, also enjoy golf, fishing, films."

JAMIE CORNETT
(TN-P-M2335-K3037-80)
Sbi-CD, 5'I1", 145. "Love being a redhead & en femme. Understanding & open minded. Will answer all. Request photo."

TRACY SCINTILLA
(TN-P-M5160-KI1336-78)
"TS, sweet, loving & sensuous. 5'I1", 160, I0T. Would love to start hormones immediately & continue through SRS, but too afraid without loving, faithful male support. Seek SHE-MALE or tall CD/man for relationship, TS/women for friendship/lady talk. Love being a woman. Hope you all like me!"

ANYA SILVER
(TN-P-M5691-K12543-77)
M-F TG, 30. "Live alone. IFGE enthusiast and supporter. Member Memphis TG Alliance.

If your listing or photo is still missing, please forward fresh copies and we will ensure that it runs for the full four issues, as promised. Write: Trans-personals, IFGE, PO Box 229, Waltham MA 02254-0229.

Christian and active in accepting church as Anya. Enjoy eating out and shopping. Am slowly working toward living full time as Anya. I especially enjoy wearing pullover dresses. Correspondence welcome. Come on out."

MISSISSIPPI (386-396)

SISSY S.
(MS-P-M3443-K7091-79)
Mbr of Tri-Ess, Beta Chi. 5'11", 190, SWM, hetero, 40. "Like being a woman & meeting women & CDs in MS. Love going to restaurants, movies, & shopping as Sissy. Seek supportive females for friendship/relationship. I enjoy being a girl, don't you?"

JOANN LYNN
(MS-P-M3858-K3224-78)
MWM, bi-TV, 5'8", 135, 36B-29-36. "Like to meet other TGs, MS Gulf Coast & New Orleans or Mobile. Love to dress as a female. SO not supportive. Will travel for daytime meetings for relationship. Seeking others who can help me be the female I crave to be."

KENTUCKY (403-427)

JUKUE R.
(KY-M1992-K2494-80)
"Love to hear from all."

LINDA BUTEN
(KY-P-M2001-K0965-99)
Mbr Crossport, IFGE Board of Directors. Participant Be All, Coming Together. MWM TV, 6', 180. "Been in public for years, & understand self & others well. Wife & children know, understand & love Linda as an extension of my personality. Enjoy dating tall, well-mannered gentlemen who know how to treat a lady to the finer things in life."

MARY ANNE WILLIAMS
(KY-P-M5525-K12197-84)
"Late 40s. Only recently began giving in to my female feelings. Oh, such sweet surrender! Wonderful, supportive wife. Desperately want to pass. Much to learn. Would like to get to know other KY girls. Interests: acting, transcendental meditation, rock 'n' roll."

CINDY LEE
(KY-P-M5674-K12524-77)
MWM, TV, 6', blonde, blue eyes. "Enjoy spending time being dressed as femininely as possible. Have accepted my feminine feelings and being the person I desire to be. Would enjoy corresponding with other CD/TV/TS. Wish to pass and socialize. Will respond to all good letters with photo."

OHIO (434-457)

FRAN S.
(OH-M0848-K1016-79)
"Retired, living in small town. Interested in senior citizens pre-op or post-op. Willing to help novice. On hormones and coming out of the closet."

MICHELLE RICHARDS
(SOH-P-M0954-K1005-81)
Mbr Paradise, Cross-Port, Alpha Omega, Tri-Ess, Sigma Epsilon, Empathy, FIL, Serenity, & Tiffany. Hetero crossdresser, 5'9", 170, educated, friendly. "Married 20 years to an A wife. An original organizer of Paradise. I enjoy crossdressing, hi-heels, girl talk, & picture-taking sessions. Need help on feminine voice. Started dressing at seven. Now in late 40s."

SUSAN KNIGHT
(N OH-P-M2053-K2450-80)
"Divorced, hetero CD, 6', 185. Mbr Tri-Ess, Alpha Omega. Enjoy fishing, camping, & old movies. Dress anytime I can, absolutely love it. Still in closet, but dress with sisters who live close by. If you live in the Huron/Erie County area & feel alone & frustrated, maybe I can help. Discreet."

RHONDA MILLER
(OH-P-M2150-K2546-78)
"Live in NW Ohio. Member of Glass City Sisters (Toledo), Alpha Omega, Tri-Ess. Married CD to supportive wife. 57, 5'7", 176. Attended Riverside '94/5. Pass easily. Go en femme. Doing the things other women do. Will answer all. Honest and sincere. Offer support and fellowship."

LISA HART
(OH-P-M2591-K3760-77)
MWM Bi-TG, 5'10", 145. "Into country living, beagle hounds, being Lisa & everything feminine. Very understanding SO. Love going out shopping & to the clubs, & quiet times at home. Seeking CD girlfriends & men in my area for girl talk, trips out, or whatever. Love to have fun. NW OH."

ROXANNE L.
(OH-M3755-K7391-77)
"No fixed gender. Priestess of Athena & Maat, Wiccan, inter-

ested in poetry, goddesses, pataphysics, surrealism, Co-counseling/empathetic listening & third camp feminism."

KRISTINE JONES
(OH-P-M3931-K8465-78)
Mbr Crossport. Be All '91-'95, Miss Be All '95. CD, tall & slender. "Wish to be Kristine whenever possible. Elegant feminine presentation except for height. Love being well dressed & out for the evening. Especially enjoy sense of humor about Community. Would like to correspond with anyone."

JOANNE HOFFER
(OH-M3955-K8523-77)
M-F TS, 36. "Interested in computers, sailing. Seeking professional consultation & support. would like to talk with other new M-F TSs with same interest."

LAURA A. SIMS
(OH-P-M3956-K6882-78)
MWM hetero, CD since age of four, 56, 5'9", 168, 40-34-38, blue eyes, blonde hair. "Love everything feminine, mostly home dresser, however, have enjoyed Southern Comfort & a few Atlanta Sigma Epsilon meetings. Love girl talk, sharing experiences. Your photo gets mine. Answer all. PROMISE."

DENISE DAWSON
(OH-P-M4746-K8130-78)
"Mbr paradise Club. attended dozens of conventions. Miss Femininity '93. single CD 39, 5'7", 132. Very passable & love fooling general public, although sometimes chicken. Interested in getting together with other very passable CD/TSs & GGs for good times. Your photo gets mine. Understanding GG desired for quality relationship."

KATHY GREY
(OH-P-M5044-K6767-80)
New mbr Crossport. MWM, CD/TV, 49, 6', 170, 14/16 (38-30-38) black hair, brown eyes. "Wife doesn't know. Wish to correspond with all. Interested in all things feminine. Must be discreet. Want friends to share & learn makeup, dress, poise, voice. Want to dress with girls. Love lingerie. Working on photo."

ANTHONY LEWIS
(OH-M5128-K1118-79)
MWM. "This longtime admirer of the transgendered would like to correspond with TV/TSs seeking male pen-pals, and to meet with a passable TV/TS interested in a closer relationship. Would like to find one special friend. I live in Medina County, will travel within 150-mile radius. Discretion is assured, expected."

KAREN S.
(OH-M5873-K2386-78)
"MWM, curious, shy, a bit scared. Would like to correspond with others who have supportive wives. I still live in secrecy. I will return all photos sent, and try to reply to all correspondence. Looking for friendship first."

STEPHANIE SHANE GEE
(OH-M5336-K6453-78)
"Transsexual female, 38-29-36. Began my journey at seventeen. Seeking girlfriends in the southern & mid sections of Ohio. I am a sincere friend. Sweet, secure guys may also write. God bless & peace."

LORIE E.
(OH-P-M5858-K1203-78)
MWM. CD. "Would like to meet all those interested in the art of being a woman. Live in Columbus, Ohio but travel the whole US. Mbr CGS, crossport. I will answer all. Hope to here from all you girls. Thanks."

JILL AMBROSE
(OH-P-M5627-K7653-77)
Mbr Crossport. "Hetero, married CD. Dressed for years before comming out at the '95 Be All. Love dressing as a woman & being feminine & try to get out once a week. would love to meet other TGs. Contribute to club newsletter. Interested in computers."

GLORIA H.
(OH-M5666-KI1045-77)
"Hetero TV, mid-50s. Love heels & hose, lingerie & pretty dresses. Wife knows but is not accepting. Love classical music, gardening. Want to go out some day. Would like to meet other central Ohio sisters for friendship & support."

LAURA JANE WALKER
(OH-M5777-K5134-78)
CD/TG, 5'15", 39ish, body shaved, herbal estrogen since 4/95, getting softer, bumps, 43-35-45, 16-T. Started electrolysis, voice training. Secretary/housewife-type days; sexy! To clubs, dancing, fun. Loves industrial design career, bicycling, sewing, becoming more feminine daily. Seek tall, mature, confident friends for correspondence, shopping, nightlife, being completely woman.

INDIANA (463-479(

YVONNE COOK-RILEY
(IN-P-MI009-K1818-99)
"IFGE Director of Operations, IFGE Board of Directors, Chr. Finance Committee. Lifetime Mbr IXE. IFGE Trinity Award '91. Friendly, sincere individual who enjoys people involved in gender issues."

DEBORAH ANNE K.
(IN-P-M2001-K2422-77)
Mbr Tri-ess. Attended Be All '90-'94. MWM, 54, 5'9", 150. "Interested in gardening, shopping, housework, bowling, fishing, NASCAR, target shooting. Enjoy dressing in cotton to silk & do so when wife is away. She knows. Learning to apply makeup. Would like to help in person or correspondence."

EDIE S.
(IN-M3329-K6627-82)
"Mbr IXE, WM CD, gemini. Just coming out, easy going, very sincere individual who enjoys all people involved in gender issues. Power walker. Body fitness & excersise are my lifestyle. Many hobbies, gourmet cooking, bird watcher, beer maker. Love all kinds of music. Write me soon."

TEDDY K.
(IN-M3805-K8287-80)
"MWM, non-supportive wife, mature, advanced CD. Mbr Tri-Ess, IXE & CIGA. Interested in writing, music, history, bicycling & tennis. Loving, enthusiastic & committed, but also prudent. Eager to help others in our lovely community. Will answer all letters. Photo if possible."

RACHEL L.
(IN-P-M4549-K9772-78)
"Early thirties, shapely, passable & sincere CD. Dressing since age 16, out in public since 19. Enjoy the career look, makeup & fun looking outfits. Published in magazines worldwide. Dressing allows me to better express the feminity within me. It's just plain fun. Drop me a line."

CHERYL T.
(IN-M4766-K6251-78)
DWM, 50s, 5'8", 165, TG. "Having returned in '94 to my home after many years living in California, am now in the TG Community for correspondence & conversation. You write & I will answer."

MICHIGAN (480-499)

MILESA PHAR
(MI-P-M0976-K1068-75)
Transgender supporter of Be All, 12 years. Photography, motorcycle hobby, college lecturer, Crossroads past officer.

JENNIFER ANN NELSEN
(SE MI-P-MI165-KI050-77)
"Mbr Crssroads. 5'11", 160, brown hair, blue eyes. Cherish time as Jennifer. Just getting to know myself, understanding my feelings as a woman. Love short skirts, silk dresses & heels. Love to meet sisters & be escorted on my travels. Will respond to your letters as best I can."

MARCIA K.
(S MI-P-M2719-K4382-80)
MWM, hetero CD, 6'2", 218, 42, frosted or red hair, triple pierced ears. "Enjoy golf, boating, travel & having a good time. Love pierced earrings, shoes & good looking clothes. Just started going out. Like to hear from other sisters, especially those in the MI area to meet & go out."

JUNE ASHBY
(MI-M3079-K5674-78)
"Mature crossdresser desires correspondence & meetings with other crossdressers or those who would like to try it. Advice to beginners & those who want to come out of the closet. Why stay there? Not a good place."

DIANE C.
(MI-M4094-K8811-79)
SWM, born 1947, hetero CD, 5'9", 160, 14, blue eyes. "Interested in reading, bicycling, rustic camping & enjoy wearing women's clothes. I am slowly slipping out of the closet & undergoing electrolysis. Would like to correspond & meet other CDs & females who understand CDs."

MICHELLE WILSON
(MI-P-M5098-K11064-81)
"MWM TV with strong TS tendencies. Seek others for penpals, friendship and adventure as I make the transition to full time womanhood. Looking to relocate soon and start a new life. Strong training and interests in quality, electronics, old airplanes, biking and backpacking. Most of all, enjoy being a woman. Will answer all."

SUZY D.
(MI-P-M5154-KI1385-78)
Mbr Crossroads. 40s, 5'6", 140. "Very feminine, passable CD who loves being a lady in all respects. Would like very much to correspond with sisters & gentlemen interested in our special world. Will respond to all!"

WISCONSIN (530-548)

JANET LYNN
(WI-P-M214I-K2536-77)
MWM. "Have understanding SO who says I look pretty good.

Interested in all who need help telling their SO about their crossdressing. Into travel, photography & country music. Write if you need suggestions on how to tell SO."

LESLEY ANN SKOJEN
(WI-M3018-K5042-79)
44, 6'4", 190, CD with strong TS feelings. "Dress in conservative fashions as often as possible. Would prefer to live in female gender. Still in closet. Interests include shopping for women's clothes, bicycling, music, movies, woodworking, auto racing. Searching for understanding woman. Seeking correspondence/meeting with TV/TS women."

KIM GREEN
(WI-M3113-K5687-77)
"Active WMCD. Mbr IFGE, Tri Ess Chi Chapter, Gemini Gender Group. Fall Harvest, JoAnne Roberts' weekend in the Poconos, Holiday En Femme. SO supportive & both want to meet & correspond with others in the culture. Like to learn to play bridge."

FRANCINE RENAE
(WI-P-M3263-K6403-78)
"There's nothing more to life than everyday living, there's loving, sharing, hoping, giving. I'm new at this, constantly learning. To meet my sisters I'm still yearning. I've met a few, which is great. our friendship is first rate. We can be ourselves, that is true. Let's correspond & be friends too."

TANYA K.
(WI-P-M3275-K4933-78)
MWM,5'10", 175, ex-military, college grad, professional, religious background. "Interested in music, aviation, religion & family. CD since childhood. Dress in hotel, but want to go out. Family does not know. Hope to tell wife. Like elegant styles. Like to hear from those with similar interests."

JAMI B.
(WI-M3456-K7120-79)
"Transgendered/transsexual. Parent, spouse, friend, nurturer, professional. Still learning to love what I love. Grateful for life. I value growth, wisdom, simplicity, laughter, music, dancing, the beauty of community. Trying to live in integrity and joy."

CATHY BROWN
(WI-P-M3698-K8037-77)
STG, 5'9", 155, nonsmoker. "Been crossdressing since age 4. Recently made some sucessful outings. Like to hear from any other CD/TS, anyone interested in helping our community & ourselves. We must all work together for the acceptance we deserve."

LAURA B.
(WI-NP-M4513-K5814-81)
5'6", 170, blue eyes. Mbr Triess Chi Chapter & Gemini Gender Group. "Just started to go out dressed in public. What a great feeling! Pass with no problem. Looking for friends for outings to help improve my femme self. Tired of hiding."

GINA J.
(WI-P-M4632-K10214-78)
Tall, single & dedicated TG. "Cherish the friends. Enjoy building, volunteer work, witty conversations & shopping for clothes. Would love to hear from other TGs & GGs who delight in warm HEARTS & THE FEMME MYSTIQUE."

STEPHANIE S.
(WI-M4757-K10727-78)
DWM, 5'10", 150. "Finally coming out. Tired of suppressing Steffi. Need to experience life & express myself as a female. Two lovely daughters. Wonderful girlfriend accepting & interested in participating. Intelligent sensitive, N/S, humorist, sports enthusiast. Willing to meet, correspond. Frequently travel to Chicago."

SANDY PINT
(WI-M5003-K8284-80)
"I am becoming more accepting of the crossdressing part of who I am. Want to develop more fully both masculine and feminine sides, and then integrate both into a meaningful whole person. Would like help in that process."

RANDY D
(WI-M5124-K11175-77)
"DWM, 5'7", 120. Creative skilled craftsman. Enjoy woodwrking, art, antiques, auto racing. Lifelong TG feelings. Bicurious. Dress every day. Finally able to be who I was meant to be. Looking for friendships or more & help coming out from GG or TG. Entertain at home. Photo appreciated."

BOBBIE H.
(WI-P-M5539-K12153-80)
"Divorced non-op TS. Mbr Chi chapter Tri-Ess, IFGE. Lifetime gender-gifted. Live as F, work as M. Frequently travel internationally for employer. Share both of me with family, friends, and neighbors. Quiet hobbies. Happy to share stories and advice."

MINNESOTA 550-567)

VANESSA S.
(MN-P-M1168-K1159-80)
"Married CD with supportive, loving spouse. Author of two published books on CD and Christian spirituality. Strongly desire communication with others interested in developing a specifically transgender-based Christian theology, working toward a ministry meeting the many and diverse spiritual needs of the transgendered community."

KARIN A.
(MN-P-M2248-K2740-77)
Married CD, supportive wife, monogamous, 5 children, Christian, professional musician, member CLCC. "Like to meet TGs with healthy outlook in MN or Western WI. Couples encouraged to write for support. Especially seek musician for possible music projects."

MELINDA C.
(MN-5236-K11639-78)
"SWM, 6'1", 51, TV for 35+ years. Still in the closet, but have been out and it was wonderful. Will be joining the Tri-Ess soon! Hope to meet and correspond with other sisters."

DEBBIE DAVIS
(MN-P-M2396-K3143-79)
Director, Gender Education Center; VP, CLCC; Exec. Board, Lambda Justice Center. Married CD, 5'9", 12/14. "Love being feminine & have fully accepted my feminine self. In public often. Direct extensive outreach and traing programs. Present at universities, medical and professional groups. Love sailing, wind surfing, water skiing, computing and SHOPPING."

MICHELLE P.
(MN-P-M3425-K7036-77)
MWM, 42, tall and slender with long legs. "Love wearing lingerie, stockings, heels and short dresses. Interested in corresponding, photo exchange and meeting new friends."

TRACY RAYMOND
(MN-M5684-K12568-77)
"BiTV, 30s, 5'2", 135, single, CD since childhood. I seek TV/CDs for fun, friendship and maybe more. I love my femme self and desire to meet someone to share these feelings. Wide variety of interests. Prefer someone with similar stature. Still in closet, but door is open. Your picture gets mine."

NORTH DAKOTA (580-588)

LAURIE C.
(ND-P-M4152-K8934-79)
"Tall, slim, blue eyed blonde country girl. Educated retired professional who enjoys gardening, cooking, & computers. On hormones, but still spend some time as a male. Still deciding on a future path. Being somewhat geographically isolated, I would welcome any correspondence on CD/TG issues."

ILLINOIS (600-629)

MICHELE MAGUIRE
(IL-P-M2125-K2516-80)
"Officer: CIGA. CD, Mbr: CGS, IXE. Married (with children), 5'11", birth year 1955, Scorpio, Engineer, Historian, Musicologist, Philosopher, Scientist, university graduate (thrice), intelligent, crazy, realist, spective, observer, explorer, loner, Taoist, calm, humorous, optimist, non-smoker, sensitive, heterosexual, infrequent correspondent. Spouse supportive, but does not participate. Seeking the Tao of intergenderism."

JULIE M.
(IL-M2936-K5012-84)
MWM, mid-30s, CD with TS feelings. "Don't dress often, wife doesn't know. Love to attend national events, meet others in our community. Passing is difficult at 6'3", but seeking the poise, style & confidence to do it. Like to write/meet other TG/ladies who understand."

JENNIFER THEISS
(IL-P-M2994-K5185-78)
"Beautiful inside and outside lesbian pre-op transsexual woman. 5'11", 136, black hair, green eyes, tan skin. Twelve years living fulltime successfully as a general manager of a retail chain restaurant. Want to meet women or pretty transsexuals. Friendship, no men."

PRISCILLA B.
(IL-P-M3085-K5273-77)
"CD, married to an understanding, beautiful lady. Enjoy all things feminine, especially very elegant gowns & party dresses. Satin & lace are so divine. Wish to correspond/meet other sisters & couples who are comfortable with this life-style. Can entertain & meet in the Midwest. Will answer all. Photo appreciated."

HEDY H.
(IL-P-M3569-K7483-79)
"Stylish, mature TV wants well-groomed, nonsmoking beau or lipstick bi-lady for special friendship. I live alone, pass beautifully (see previous ads) wherever I please—club, museum, tea room, mall—and will meet Saint Louis business traveler. Scintillating letter/photo gets quick answer. I promise! Ciao!"

BARBARA ANN ROBERTS
(IL-P-M3816-K6257-77)
Member Chi Chapter Tri-Ess. MWM, 5'10", 19, 50, educated professional TV. "Love to dress up, go out, outdoors, fishing, hunting, Chicago suburbs. Dressing all my life, now want to come out. Have joined support group. Like to correspond, swap photos, meet others for friendship, sharing, learning."

JULIE ANN P.
(IL-M3962-K5840-77)
MWM, 5'9, 185. "Interested in sporting events, fishing, women's fashions. Wife understands, but is not supportive. I dress when she is not home. I enjoy the feminine feeling when dressed. It helps me relax."

AMANDA LYNN R.
(IL-M4574-K9942-77)
"As her name states, Amanda is a musician by love, MIS by occupation. Composed & recorded album of crossdressing tunes in '95. Active in welcoming new sisters into Chi Chapter of Tri-Ess. Love mail. Married, kids. Would like to hear from all, especially musicians."

PAMELA ELAINE TRACY
(IL-P-M4904-K10896-79)
"5'10", 165, 39 (and holding), hazel eyes, friendly. Interested in reading, all sports, woodworking, movies. Placing this listing to establish correspondence with other TV/CDs & women who love them. Love dressing sexy (in leather skirts, heels, seamed hose) or in fashionable business-woman look. Passion for sexy lingerie. Please write & include your photo."

JANE WHITNEY
(IL-M5031-K9199-81)
"My life is flourishing and contented with five decades of the gift of femininity. Beginning at age, by curiosity was carefully indulged by an enlightened mother and friends. Their legacy of joy has endured and grown without regret, guilt or illusions. Word from those of similar mind is welcome."

JYL W.
(IL-M5114-K10788-81)
"WM TV, 33, 135, 5'8", still not out. Love lingerie, hose, short skirts, high heels & feeling feminine. Looking for someone to help me become more passable & bring me out in public."

ROXANNE LAVERNE MITCHELL
(IL-M5185-K11230-77)
Mbr of IFGE & Chicago Gender Society. "Like lingerie. Want to be passable. On hormones M2F. Like dressing as a woman & being feminine. Want correspondence from all. Hobbies incl. photography & travel. Single & want to be TS real bad!!"

WENDY B.
(IL-M5225-K11614-78)
DWM 44, 5'11". "Father of four who do not know about this part of me. Have been crossdressing occasionally since childhood. Now dress frequently when alone. Almost passable. Would love to go out en femme, but don't have the nerve. Love movies, fishing, theatre music, camping, partying, you name it."

MICHELLE G.
(IL-P-M5286-K11741-78)
DWM, 5'10", 180, 16, blonde hair, blue eyes. "Love everything feminine. Not passable yet, working on it. Love to escort as a male. Seeking correspondence and/or meetings with couples, men, women. Live in small town, but can travel. Answer all. Pref photo."

ELLIE ALTMAN
(IL-M5428-K6992-79)
"I am the mother of a 30-year-old female-male TS and have started a support group for friends and family in the Chicago area. Please write to find out more about the group."

ROBYN G.
(IL-P-M5682-K12560-77)
"Older, affectionate, tall, slender novice TV. Am beginning to accept and increasingly embrace my true feminine being. Would love to share correspondence with and the company of sister TVs and understanding traditional females."

VALERIE K.
(IL-M5815-K10057-78)
"M-F TV with TS feelings. Off and on with hormones. Born in 1970. Would like to hear from understanding genetic female, M-F TS/TV. My reply might be slow. Please forgive."

CASSANDRA RENEE SNIDER
(IL-P-M5703-K122622-77)
DWM, 40, 5'5" TG/TS, auburn hair. "Enjoy romantic novels, shopping, race cars, Teddy bears and femininity. Seek correspondence from all sisters. I will answer one and all. Your photo gets mine. Enjoy life."

MISSOURI (630-658)

ANGELA JOHNSON
(MO-P-M1162-K1308-77)
DBM, CD, 47, 5'11", 175. "Music, photography, movies, new friends, girl talk and sports interest me. Looking to correspond with and meet other TV/CD/TSs and understanding ladies. I enjoy going out as Angela. Sisters of color, where are you? Please write."

VANESSA T.
(MO-M4113-K8923-78)
"DWM TV, mid-40's, passable, college graduate, semi-retired. Recently moved to SW Missouri. Enjoy all things feminine, & with others with same interests who are sincere. Love to shop. Would like to attend some CD events. Looking for CDs & women interested in CD."s for friendship

MICKI DANIELS-GREENWELL
(MO-P-M4610-K7131-78)
"Hello. I'm Micki. Transitioned April '93. I'd like to see more support for TSs in the TG world. Working toward that end. If you are TS & want to get involved, or if you are just looking for a friend we need each other."

TRISH ELAINE KASTEN
(MO-P-M4805-K10267-78)
Pre-op TS, 5'11", 143, 32. "Interested in sharing experiences, strengths and hopes. I am also a recovering alcoholic and addict. Five years. Has anyone else found recovery? Photo and phone gets same, but not required.

KANSAS (660-679)

EVELYN BORDEN
(E KS P-M0400-K1329-80)
"Tall, well educated, very passable TG interested in meeting others in the Kansas City area & sharing resource information. Open, understanding, helpful to others traveling same path."

SHELLY H.
(KS-P-M4627-K10171-78)
SW pre-op TS, 5'7", 150, 50. Member WTA. "Have started transition and love it. Seeking friends and looking for SO to share my life with. I'm caring, loving and accepting. Love good music and crosswords. Varied other interests. Please write. Will answer all."

VERONICA MOELLER
(KS-P-M4893-K8412-79)
SWM TG, 5'7", 39, 145. Professional. "Enjoy classical music, reading, movies, coffee shops and outdoors. Passable. I am moving towards TS and full time living. Seek friends to lend advice and experiences."

STALENA PAGE
(KS-P-M5342-K5379-78)
"SW Pre-Op M2F, Dress well, 5'9", 170. Seek friends & someone to share my life with: gentlemen, TS, CD. I'm understanding, compassionate & kind. A great person to know. Like all kinds of music & do many things. Please write, I'm lonely."

NEBRASKA (680-693)

DEBRA ANN F.
(NE-P-M1655-K1347-78)
"Am fully out in my home town. Live about 25% as Deb. My loving wife, family and friends are educating alliance to what gender issues are all about. If you would like help in coming out, please write. We will gladly help."

JANELLE L.
(NE-M2958-K5055-78)
"Mbr of Emerald City. 6'1", recently married, almost passable, non-smoker. Enjoy feeling feminine. Travel extensively, esp. the Pacific Northwest. Wife tolerates. Educated, friendly, pilot, physically active, computer-literate. Like to correspond & meet couples, CDs for discussion, activities."

TAMI DIANE
(NE-M3284-K6480-82)
"I enjoy all that is feminine & wish to become more involved in the TV/TS community. Passable, 5'11", 37. Interested in making friends who are interested in our feminine ways. Intelligent, educated, & discreet. Enjoy going out en femme. Would like to meet sincere, understanding TV/TSs & genetic females for friendship."

DEE ANN W.
(NE-M4647-K9711-78)
Mbr RCGA. MWM. "Lifelong closeted TV. Wife is accepting, but a lot of issues remain. Searching for integration of male & female sides. Enjoy corresponding with TV/TSs. We can learn from each other."

ANITA ANN WHITE
(NE-P-M5782-K12708-78)
34, TS, 6', 160. "Have built many a wall due to shame and guilt to prevent me from having a congruent identity. Am now exploring the options."

JANET MELISSA B.
(NE-M6036-K11170-79)
"44, 5'2", 150#, cute. Crossdressed since age 6. Family knew and tolerated it. Enjoy dainty thoughts. Hips are narrow, started medication late. Good voice, size 10 misses petite. Striving for 137 #. Celibate, bi tendency. Please, Jesus, sa, 'Talitha Koum,' to me. Ne'er-do-well. Physicians, please, charity."

LOUSIANA (700-714)

ALICE HEBERT
(LA-P-M2964-K5098-80)
Mbr Gulf Gender Alliance. "I am married to a very understanding, supportive wife, & am my most relaxed when I am a woman. I love being out among my sisters, & would welcome corresponding with them."

GINGER B.
(LA-M4366-K10089-80)
"Financially independent, single, 6'1", 215, very infrequent CD needs a full-time French maid capable of caring for & sharing the good life on 15 acres with a home. You can live full time as a woman. Tell me about your dreams & needs. Let us trade letters & photos."

MARIAN B.
(LA-M5298-K3493-78)
5'7", 150, early 30s, pre-op TS. "I like movies, reading, writing & American history. I would like to talk to other TSs. I have taken many steps forward & several back, but I am on the road to being the woman I am."

AMAZING GRACE
(LA-P-M5617-K6321-77)
"SW CD. Looking for understanding female. Please write if you have any interest in crossdressers. Your photo gets mine."

MICHELLE SCHEMANN
(IA-NP-M5117-KI1112-81)
MWM, 5'6", 150. Novice CD maybe Bi. "Blessed with natural girlish figure. Finally exploring my femme self. Eager to share all aspects of feminine mystique & transformation. Have ventured out dressed. Looking for girlfriend to share ideas, experiences, fantasies, photos, etc."

ARKANSAS (716-729)

JANA H.
(AR-P-M2042-K2442-80)
"Let's talk! Into dressing 13 years. Married, wife knows, helps, but not her thing. Late 50s, 5'7", 165. Former USAF pilot. Still working. Can't help it! Love it all, 38C to 5" inch heels. Into golf, photography, video. Possibly meet in AR, MS, LA. Always respond to everyone. Do it!"

LARRY D.
(AR-M5247-KI0478-78)
MWM. "Never had a desire to dress, but have had a lifelong desire to know & associate with those who do. I respect who you are, & would love to hear from anyone, especially in Arkansas & nearby states. Would you like an understanding man's point of view?"

LAURIE STARK
(AR-M5410-KI1897-80)
"5'8", 190, 39, single, TV/TS feelings. Like movies, Sci-Fi, romance, mountains, camping, SCUBA, dressing, classical gourmet cooking, fine wine, helping gender community, peace & quiet, air brush. Hope to start transition soon: electrolysis, hormones. Would like to develop friendships with women, couples, TV/TSs, & build lasting friendships."

STACI B.
(AR-P-M5550-K12188-77)
"WM CD wishes to hear from TV/TS/CDs. Wife doesn't know, nor would she approve. My interests include sexy satin lingerie, photo exchange and possible meetings. I would love hearing from anyone with similar interests and will answer all. My greatest joy is being female and I want to share that with someone."

OKLAHOMA (730-749)

GEORGIA HILBERT
(OK-P-M3108-K5304-78)
"Mbr Tri-Ess, Delta Omega, Sigma Beta. Attended Texas T Party '92. MWM, retired. Wife accepts but non-supportive. So-so passer, but going out since '91. Interested in outdoors, nature, homemaking, crossdressing & transsexualism. Hope to do some writing. Like to meet & correspond with like-minded people."

ARLENE L.
(OK-M4664-KI0321-78)
Pre-op TS, 5'10", 180lbs. "Family nonsupportive. Passable, architect, boss knows, coworkers do not. Crossdressing since childhood. Divorced, two loving children. On hormones. Away from work I live as

Arlene. Seek TSs for friendship. Quiet, sincere, passive, loving."

TEXAS (750-799)

LAURA TAYLOR

(TX-P-M1254-K1408-77)

"CD, about 5'9" 170 lb. Just love my time dressed & made up as a woman. Love to meet & write to other CDs. Off lots of weekdays for dress up sessions, shopping, lunch, etc."

CASEY COLE
(S TX-P-M1907-K2196-79)
"Hetero, male CD, 44. Living with supportive life-mate. Active in Austin Second Image, Mbr of ETVC. Previous Mbr of Boulton & Park, Heart of Texas TV."

Visit Our Web Site:
http://www.tiac.net/users/dba/ifge/ifge.htm

PHYLLIS RANDOLPH FRYE, ATTY
(TX-P-M2940-K4963-99)
"Mbr of GCTC. Organizer of first International Conference on Transgender Law & Employment Policy. Out of closet & successful transgendered attorney. Like helping people out of closets, fighting myths & stereotypes. Will speak on TG issues. It isn't '76, this is the '90s. Come out! You're an OK person. Don't put up with the guilt & shame lie."

LIANNA JAMES
(TX-P-M2949-K5062-77)
SWM, 6'1", 180. Mbr IFGE, Tri-Ess, SIS. "Enjoy travel, photography, computers & corresponding with other heterosexual crossdressers."

FRANCINE WILLIAMS
(TX-P-M3112-K5688-77)
"Advanced CD. Pass well. Very supportive wife. Enjoy the arts,fine dining, wine, world travel, walking (especially Paris), photography, lingerie, & vintage apparel. Have a very busy life, but will correspond & exchange photos/articles relating to TGs & women. Slow to respond, but please be patient. Am trying to be prompt."

NANCY BAKER
(TX-P-M3186-K6109-79)
Mbr B&P & ASI. Attended Texas T Party '92-'95. "Married to loving & supportive wife who helps with wardrobe selection & overall look. Interested in meeting others for socializing & conversation. Enjoy corresponding with others who have experienced or are interested in forced crossdressing & petticoat punishment."

KIM HUNTER
(TX-P-M3708-K8038-80)
"Single, hormones since '92. Love music, intimate conversation, cooking, good wine. Other interests too varied to list. Seeking stable, healthy relationship. Send photo with letter. Would also like to hear from others in the Rio Grande Valley; friendship, support."

MARK J.
(TX-P-M4275-K2691-79)
"M, self-employed, athletically fit. Seek attractive TG for friendship that could develop into a possible relationship. All answered with photo."

TIFFANY TAYLOR
(TX-P-M4460-K9001-77)
5'9", 165, 31. "Have an interest in everything about crossdressing. Love to attend FI shows & evenings on the town. Your photo gets mine."

LINDA B.
(TX-P-M4547-K9774-77)
"Divorced, post-op female, nurse. SRS at 21, hormones since age 15. Want to correspond with other TSs or men interested in post-op TSs. Very discreet. I think we are all very special."

JOHN C.
(TX-P-M4603-K10106-77)
"SWM, 5'10, 175, brown hair, blue eyes, educated, understanding of gender issues. Seek feminine, passable pre-op TS or other TG person 21-45 for quality relationship. Willing to correspond or travel to meet those interested. Photo, phone number appreciated."

LEE G.
(TX-P-M4622-K10161-78)
"Central Texas TG. Member of Austin Second Image. Interests are androgynous everyday dressing, long distance motorcycle touring, the Gender Forum on America on Line. Interested in meeting others of a like mind and interests. Catch me on-line."

R. W.
(TX-P-M4790-K10551-79)
"Kind & caring. Like downtown & foreign films, political science, drives in the country & cha-cha dancing. Advanced Karate. Would like letters."

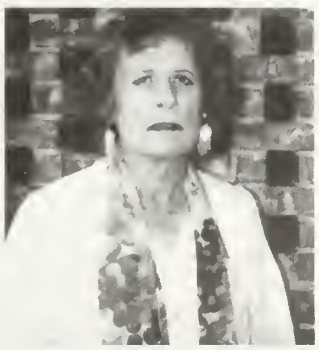
ANGIE HONNE
(TX-M5248-K11646-78)
5'4", 130, WBiM. "Married. She knows, but no support, only anger. Otherwise, closet TS. Need help & advice. I am alone. Looking for support & friendship. No smoking, mild drink, & I like music. Never been out, but I really want to be a woman."

MARY LEE
(TX-M5263-K11681-78)
"Member of Delta Omega since 1986. Attended all T Parties except for one. Age in mid-60s. Reader, military retiree. Call Delta's hot-line for further contact."

BRENDA LOGAN
(TX-P-M5358-K6872-78)
"Experimenting since a teen. Just recently started fully dressing, & am still somewhat closeted. Wife knows, but not fully supportive. Interested in fashion, glamour, makeup. Would like to make friends with like-minded sisters & exchange tips, photos & experiences. Active on Internet & AOL. Your letter & photo gets mine."

COLLEEN HELMS
(TX-M5531-K12231-80)
DWM bi-CD, 5'10", 180, red/blue. "Relationship-oriented. Love lingerie & heels. Need help with makeup, wigs, & upper physique styles. Correspond by phone or mail. Photo appreciated. Can entertain or travel. Discretion assured. Peace & love (we need it)!"

KELLI ROBERTS
(TX-M5615-K10415-80)
SWM, 5'7", CD. "Former member WTGA. 1996 has been wild. Have traded the sands of West Texas for the sands of the Texas coast. Still enjoy hearing from sisters across the Lone Star state, looking for friendship and sharing info."



BETTIE ANN A.
(TX-P-M5616-K10064-80)
Mbr Delta Omega, Irving, Texas. Hetero, 60, 5'9, 150, widower. "Wife was supportive. Crossdressing since age 12. I prefer living as a woman most of my free time. Enjoy going out. Passable? No one has said anything, & I never asked. I'm just an older woman."

PAUL ROCHER
(TX-M5621-K8629-77)
"Generous, single, part-time TV, hopelessly unpassable, feminine clothing expert, wishes to support, entertain & assist young, passable TV. Want to help you be the woman I always wanted to be. Can travel or host. I will answer your letter. Photo appreciated."

CAROL R.
(TX-P-M5645-K12438-77)
Central Texas single CD, 5'8 & shapely. "After long repression, am exploring further. Educated, intelligent, traveled, healthy & sincere. Seeking like-minded persons for outings, conversation shopping, dressing, support or just correspondence especially understanding genetic females. Write soon, I respond quickly. Photo appreciated."

JENNIFER RYAN
(TX-P-M5655-K9957-77)
SWM 5'11, 150. "New to CD scene, but trying to become more active. Enjoy sports, music, aviation & movies. Love wearing feminine outfits & sexy lingerie. Looking forward to correponding/meeting other TGs & understanding women in the community. Your letter/photo gets mine."

MARLENE D.
(TX-P-M5665-K11032-77)
"SWM hetero CD, fetish, fantasy dresser. All my outer/underwear are black patent stretch leather. Ultra-sheer, shiny 15 denier black seamless stockings—no pantyhose for this gal! 6" black patent spiked stiletto-heeled pumps with pointy toes. Please Write."

CHRISTY A.
(TX-P-M5673-K12523-77)
"Young attractive CD and supportive wife seek others who enjoy correspondence. We enjoy theatre, fine food and good company. Seeking other Texas sisters. All correspondence will be answered. Please include photo."

DARLENE E.
(TX-M5811-K0239-77)
"Divorced, lifelong CD. In the closet, but the door is open. Would love to meet others in northeast Texas. Will answer all let"

BETTY ANN CRUZ
(TX-M5966-K3802-79)
"Married, hetero CD. Wife and I enjoy shopping for both. I spend about two-thirds of my time as Betty. Haven't been out in public as Betty. Will try to answer all letters. Would like to hear from others in NE Texas."

SABRA SINCLAIR
(TX-M5978-K6690-79)
"30-something, beautiful dark skinned, sexy dark eyes, post-op TS. 5'9", 126#, 38C-24-35. Widow with lez desires. Would love to hear from passable post- and pre-ops, handsome men, or

those whose interests are leaning toward becoming TS. Interests are in the occult, music, lingerie, heels, cosmetics, dancing, dining, theatre, shopping."

COLORADO (800-816)

JULIE RICHTER
CO-P-M4522-K5164-77
"Barbara & I would love to hear from all the new friends that we made at Be All last summer. We forgot to get most of your addresses, so please drop us a line so we can share some of the great pictures with you. Hope to see you all at Texas T & Be All this year! Like to meet others who can see me in the same light. Looking forward to attending my first convention. Would like to know what to expect."

JOANNE WILSON
(CO-P-M4620-K-82)9-78)
"WM, 5'10", 175#, professional, fiftyish, spending more time en femme than not. Enjoy shopping, occasional bar-hopping, and golf. Poor corespondent, but will answer all. Currently on hormones and electrolysis. Would like to hear from others."

Synchronicity Bookstore
Ad on page 1
True Selves: Understanding Transsexualism
Mildred L. Brown, Ph.D.
#185 Only
$24.95

WYOMING (820-831)

VERONICA B.
(WY-P-M4969-K7113-80)
SWM, 150, 6', CD. "Love everything feminine. Enjoy changing looks & trying new things. Like to hear from open-minded, fun-loving people & meet with those in my area."

GINA S.
(WY-M5096-K11058-83)
MWM. mid-40s, CD/TG with TS inclinations."Seeking advice and support to achieve goal in coming out and being able to live a female life-style. Wife knows, trying to accept, but nonsupportive. I have much to learn about my femininity. Hearing from my sisters would be a great help."

MELANIE S.
(WY-P-M5205-K2889-77)
SWM, 5'8, 155, hetero CD. "Like movies, theatre, concerts, dancing, fashion, SCUBA diving, skiing, snowmobiling, conversation, romance, and being the loveliest girl I can. Always eager to make friends & go on new adventures."

LINDA ANNE S.
(WY-P-M5488-K12095-80)
"MWM TS living full time with supportive SO and family. On hormones 1-1/2 years and looking forward to eventual SRS. I find SW Wyoming extremely accepting and would love to meet others in my area."

IDAHO (834-839)

GERRI BECKEN
(ID-P-M3230-K6299-83)
6'0", 160, 42, single CD/TV. "Interested in reading romance & Sci-Fi/fantasy, computers, long walks, & dressing. Will respond to all letters. Do pass in public. Please write."

HEATHER WILKINS
(ID-M5741-K1-8108-77)
"Married with loving wife. CD, mid-30s, closeted. Would like to help build support for out community in S. Idaho/E. Oregon. I am ready to meet sisters and brothers. Will cherish words of advice from anyone in 'the family' that has started a club."

UTAH (840-847)

ROBIN J.
(UT-M3339-K6618-78)
"DW/CD/TS? Interested in corresponding/meeting others. Like music, shopping, outdoors & comedy clubs. I started accepting myself. Like to meet others who can see me in the same light. Looking forward to attending my first convention. Would like to know what to expect."

DANA M.
(UT-P-M5364-K11458-78)
MWM CD, 39 (for real!). "Big on gettin' fixed up and gettin' out, especially dancing. Work lets me travel and have enjoyed meeting sisters i Boston, Atlanta, LA area, and Salt Lake City. Wife has participated little and does not understand. I am working on integrating my femininity into my daily life."

ARIZONA (850-864)

JENNIFER E. SAMSOL
(AZ-P-M1056-K1467-78)
"Mbr A Rose. DWM, 6', 175, 46, warm, caring, open professional. Interested in cooking, all music except hard rock, metaphysics, hunting, fishing, computers, camping en femme, sunsets, horses, & dogs. Fond of gold clothes, heels, & blonde hair, but also enjoy tight skirts & tight blouses, etc. Travel quite a bit. Write."

LAURIE K.
(AZ-M2777-K4607-80)
"Hetero CD, 5'7", 130, slender, feminine figure, pass easily, considered realistic & attractive. Enjoy being sophisticated, fashionable woman of good taste. Like art, theater, literature, an-

tiques, architecture, interior design, music, vintage wines, & fashions. Love to meet/write CDs in Phoenix area, elsewhere."

CINDY N.
(AZ-P-M4047-K8782-78)
Mbr Alpha Zeta, A Rose. Married, 5'7", size 18. "Interested in photography, desert 4-wheeling, and, of course, shopping."

RASHEL R.
(AZ-P-M4084-K8769-78)
Mbr Tri-Ess, Alpha Zeta, A Rose. Single, hetero CD. President Alpha Zeta, 1994. Attended California Dreamin' '93, '94, Holiday En Femme '93. "Love to network with serious sisters. Out of the closet, out on the town & enjoying life, clubbing, sisterhood & being me."

REBECCA B.
(AZ-P-M4791-K1362-78)
"Mbr Alpha Zeta, Tri-Ess. Love being fem. Retired, 5'10", 210. Dress anytime. Work with wood. Design SW style furniture. Like shopping & meeting TGs. Will send photo to all who write."

ANONOMOUS MALE
(AZ-M4888-K8301-80)
"SWM, 45, professional, moderately financially independent in five years. Seeking young, feminine, early stage 'true' preop for loving, caring monogamous relationship. Prefer a TS on natural hormones and who is highly erotic by nature. Please send photo and description."

CATHERINE SMITH
(AZ-P-M5208-K11545-77)
"SW, 32, Supporting Member IFGE. Very shy, self-employed carpenter specializing in kitchens and bath remodeling. Will work most anywhere. Interests include camping, music, reading, cooking, being creative, religion. No sexually explicit letters, please."

H. THAU
(AZ-M5366-K10430-78)
"Romantic, loyal, incarcerated man. Pisces, homeowner, professional chef, German-Irish nationality, 6', hazel-eyes. Want fem post-op for marriage. Will provide home, security, all my love. Pre-ops write! Answer all."

NEW MEXICO (870-884)

RENEE G.
(NM-M4200-K7141-79)
"34, 5'8", 145, closet CD. Love heels, hose, lace & lingerie. Interested in corresponding, photo exchange, & meeting some new friends. Will answer all."

THONG SANDI TAPAGANDA
(NM-P-M4342-K3848-80)
"Gay (happy) Transvestite, learning to get in touch with my feminine self. 5'7", 155, thirty-something. Very finely sculptured, completely hairless, athletic body. Activities include nudism, ballet (on pointe!), several sports, & phantasy photography. Am very open-minded, so when writing feel free to express your true self!"

NEVADA (890-898)

DENISE H.
(NV-P-M3741-K8199-77)
"MWM, 6'0", 185, CD. SO supportive, Mbr SPICE (Tri-Ess). Mbr IFGE, Tri-Ess, Crossroads (MI) & Theta Upsilon Gamma (NV). Retired, not expired. Enjoy all things fem. Mbr of several speakers' groups & fond of outreach work, both inside & outside our community. Love to help sisters & work with our organizations."

DEBRA NICHOL
(NV-M4789-K1292-79)
"This is a gift that this happy TG shares with all you readers. Hope there are more of you here who would like to enjoy our southern Nevada sunshine."

Our Apologies!
Because of computer crashes, we want to keep photos on file in case this little inconvience happens again.
Sorry we can't return photos.

CALIFORNIA (900-960)

LAURA R. COVINGTON
(CA-P-M0480-K1659-78)
"DBM, Hetero, 5'8", 140. Wish to correspond, exchange photos and meet other TGs/GGs. Been dressing long & realize I'll never stop. Enjoy it too much. In contact with many people that feel the same."

LORRAINE HALL
(CA-P-M1150-K1648-80)
"An older lady who ten years ago, after many years of denial,, could no longer hide from who and what I was. I always enjoy hearing from others with whom I can share triumphs, experiences and problems."

KATE GOLDMAN
(CA-P-M1652-K0760-78)
"Passable, 5'8", sz 12. Great sense of humor, discreet & sensitive. love sharing ideas with

other girls. Like makeup, adventures, photography & 'puters. Want to achieve a totally fem image & persona. Out at last & loving it."

RACHAEL D.
(N CA-P-M1811-K1957-79)
"Lifestyle changing. Very happy just going out as a woman, doing regular stuff: shopping, errands, etc. I pass well. TG group meetings secondary. Still belong RGA, ETVC, DVG."

MELISSA M. FOSTER
(S CA-P-M2099-K1518-81)
"WCD enjoys meeting people who have the same interests & that enjoy going out & having fun. I travel extensively & love meeting people & visiting groups. I am presently very involved in the community & very much enjoy helping those who are looking for info or help."

LISA HUNTER
(CA-M2112-K2522-80)
"Have lived as a woman most of my life. Age 24, bisexual TV. Interested in pen-pals only."

BOB DAVIS
(CA-M2620-K1631-80)
"Mbr ETVC, IFGE. Collector of TG books, periodicals & ephemera seeking to correspond with others & compare collections. Willing to buy, trade or sell. All letters & inquiries will be answered, but I apologize in advance for making you wait. A special note to dirty minds: I'm very happy in my current relationship. My lover & I do not welcome salacious solicitations."

CAROL LEE
(CA-M2798-K4622-78)
"Heterosexual-oriented TV. I pass reasonably well. Am happy to correspond or meet similar individuals who are interested in photography, shopping, beautiful clothes, or just sharing our mutual interest in dressing."

LUCY ANN JONES
(CA-M2833-K4704-80)
"Mbr ETVC. Blue eyes, long auburn hair, 6'1", 180, post-op M-F (12-21-82) Biber Girl, 16T, self-employed computer consultant, voice coaching, & astrology. Pisces sun sign, moon, Scorpio rising, something with Aries. Bi-lesbian in relationship with genetic female for eight years. Your SASE & photo gets mine."

MARY ANNE S.
(CA-M3030-K5498-77)
"Finally, my schooling is complete! Many thanks to friends for patience & support. I can now correspond. Interests: science & astronomy, electrical engineering, gardening, cooking, pretty clothes, berdachism. Mbr AAAS, IFGE, SWE."

JUDI BENSEN
(CA-P-M3063-K4877-81)
"MWM, hetero CD. Wife has observed & assisted, but does not understand. I adore our feminine side. Been away for a while, am seeking pen-gals for better understanding."

BILLIE JEAN JONES
(CA-P-M3205-K6197-99)
"Mbr ETVC, DVG, RGA, SGA, CGNIE, SLCC. Attended ETVC Cotillion, Fantasia Fair, Miss ETVC 1992. Late 30s (like 45), 6', 150, children (23, 20), 2nd marriage (whadda year!), Androgyne, gender bender, numerous scars, offbeat personality. Interested in blabbing, writing, photography, music, discovering diversity, living fully, making a difference, laughing. Publish *Genderflex*—Contributors welcome. This is my real life."

LAURA RODGERS
(CA-P-M3627-K7688-79)
60+, 5'10", 160, retired. Member SGA. "Long time CD/TV. No longer in closet. Enjoy going out to meetings, dinners, and in general enjoying relationships with other sisters. Would love to hear from you, especially Sacramento area."

KATRINA REED
(CA-P-M3677-K7999-79)
"TG, Bi, androgynous, on hormones, supportive wife. Delight in all that is soft & feminine. Fascinated by issues of transformation of consciousness, magic & shamanism implicit in cross-dressing historically. Counter-culture orientation. Teacher of Buddhism, Meditation & Deep-ecology. Love to hear from others, especially in S CA."

CHARLI RICHARDS
(CA-P-M4068-K8799-78)
"Dressing since childhood, but only recently began to explore femme self. Joined Tri-Ess, but was not able to attend meetings. Wife not accepting, so dress in private. Enjoy shopping & love feeling of nylons & heels. Enjoy travel fishing, home construction & repairs. Semi-retired. Will reply to all."

ANN SMITH
(CA-M4351-K9593-80)
"Loving, warm, successful professional interested in other successful, professional TVs. My goal is to understand the relationship between crossdressing and business/professional success. I want to meet and discuss this. Lifelong crossdresser. So. Cal."

LORI M.
(CA-P-M4747-K10546-78)
"MWM, novice TS/TG, very discreet, wife non-supportive. Still in closet. Enjoy computers, movies & photography. Would like to meet big sister in the Antelope/San Fernando Valley area who can teach me to become the lady I long to be."

VERONICA SMITH
(CA-P-M5086-K10717-77)
"Mbr of ETVC, attended Southern Comfort '93, Texas T '94, '95, IFGE Convention-Portland '94. Three years limited cross-dressing even though I have

very supportive wife. Kind souls tell me I could pass, but I don't believe it. Would like to read my sisters' accounts of first times out. Will answer all letters."

KAREN ADLER
(CA-P-M-5172-K11409-77)
"I'm a good listener, friendly company, confident (135, 5'7") MTV. Maya Angelou's *Phenomenal Woman* says it best, '. . . when I try to show them, they say they can't see, I say it's in the click of my heels, the sun of my smile, the grace of my style . . . that's me . . . '"

JENNIFER H.
(CA-M5173-K11414-77)
"Athletic, 30-something San Francisco TV. Educated, fun-loving professional. Travel, love to dress, meet those interested in our 'sport.' Attend conventions, go out. Attractive, bright, blue eyes, brown hair, great sense of humor. Very active in both sports. Let's meet!"

GLENDA S.
(CA-P-M5388-K1175-79)
"SWM, 37, 6'1", 180, size 11, tall, slender. Enjoy CD in tight clothes and becoming as sexy as I can. Wish to meet same or TV/TS. Exchange letters, photos, videos. Answer all. Have enjoyed all responses and exchanges since appearing in *Transgender Tapestry*, and hope for many more."

RANDI GARNER
(CA-M5412-K7439-80)
"TS full time. ETVC/SIS/Cal Dreaming '96. New to San Francisco after coming from small mountain town in No. Calif. Will answer all."

PAULA W.
(CA-P-M5471-K1669-79)
"Mbr RGA. 5'9", 53, MWM. Want to meet other like-minded sisters who enjoy the CD lifestyle. Have gone out dressed a few times. Interests include hiking, ocean walks, gardening, music, & shopping. Wife & family unaware of my feminine side. Would like to write to & exchange photos with femme sisters & genetic ones."
JAN JENSEN
(CA-M5494-K12112-80)
MWM bi-TV/TS inclined, 55, 6', 195, 18. "Wife okay to a point. Dressed all my life. Wear lingerie at all times. Go out occasionally. Love everything femme. On hormones since '84. Love to hear from anyone self-employed. Design, fabricate, repair, restore race cars & street rods."

KAY B.
(CA-P-M5680-K12554-77)
40-ish, 5'12", slim (155), married. "Fun-loving, educated, sincere, discreet and emerging. Into business skirts, blending in and making friends. Interests include aviation, computers and the environment. Looking for CD/TV friends, understanding escorts and makeup tips. Love going shopping and want company. Greater Los Angeles area. Correspondence only okay."

LUCY A.
(CA-M5712-K12652-77)
Mbr ETVC. Single, 35, 5'10", 170, bi-CD. Open minded. "I like to wear sexy clothing and sophisticated also. Interests: reading jogging, bicycling and body building. I like talking to and meeting other transgendered people. I also enjoy the company of women who understand my feelings of the cross-dressing lifestyle."
NITZI T.
(CA-M5731-K12677-77)
"Just moved to northern California and am hoping to start a new life expressing my feminine side. 43, SWM who strives to become the gentle and soft person within me. Love corresponding and meeting other TVs and male friend in the north state area."

GEORGANDA BURGOYNE
(CA-M5790-K0565-77)
"GG, non-CD. I like movies, thrift stores, beaches, desert trips. Would like to become an SO to a special lady with common interests. If she would enjoy going to socials and gender events with a real girl also in a dress. Come on out, single woman, be a friend. Write!"

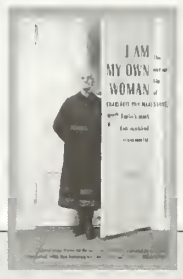
OREGON (970-979)

RHONDA F.
(OR-M2708-K4343-79)
"5'10", 165, still in closet. Wife knows & is tolerant. Small town paranoia. Traveling in Oregon & most outdoor activities. Love lingerie & TV fiction books, & have large collection of both. Love catalogue shopping."

WASHINGTON (980-994)

BARBARA BARRETT
(WA-P-M0258-K0560-83)
Mbr NWGA, Emerald City. 5'10", 160 CD. "Like music, fashion, movies, camping, meeting sisters. Have supportive SO. Comfortable with myself. Value friendship, honesty, sincerity, discretion. Enjoy small social gettogethers & CD events. New to Olympic Peninsula area. Will answer all."

SANDY S.
(WA-P-M1022-K1728-79)
"VP Emerald City. Participant Esprit '90, '91. 185, M, blond, blue eyes. Like CD, boating, computers, camping, flying. Enjoy going out & doing the town. Would like to meet others, wives too. Passable. Been to several very public affairs & look forward to more. Want to be accepted as the middle-aged lady I am."



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JUDY OSBORNE
(WA-P-M1024-K1719-80)
"Mbr Emerald City, NWGA, Tri-Ess. Enjoy sailing, reading, sports, cooking. Learning to sew, but not very good yet. Love being out in the world doing the things other women do, having fun."

EMILY THOMAS
(WA-P-M3119-K5669-77)
"Mbr Emerald City, 5'8", 155, 54, brown hair & eyes. Married 27 years to an understanding wife. Interested in sewing, weaving, spinning, computers, wood working, plants, & reading. Membership chairman for Emerald City. Write to sisters in the NW who are patient with my slow responses."

LINDA LOUISE S.
(WA-M4001-K8609-78)
"Feminine MWM/Lesbian TV, love beauty in nature, music, femininity & caring relationships. Unsupportive spouse restricts life for now. Seek feminine M-F TV of F who is loving & accepting. Friendship now, more later. Only sincere letters answered: be interesting, caring & romantic."

LORRIE T.
(WA-P-M4057-K7891-78)
MWM, 49, 10. "CD with supportive wife wishes to correspond with others. Very much want to make friends and dress one-on-one with other CDs in OR/WA. Not looking for sex, just good friends. Please write and I'll respond. Photo appreciated. Let's enjoy our feminine selves together."

STACY ELAINE DAVIS
(WA-M4919-K10876-80)
"Feminine, DSWM lesbian TV. Love beauty in nature, music, feminine & caring relationships. I am a smoker, 6', 220. Love shopping & wearing all the things that other women do. I like to read *Transgender, Woman Talk* & watch daytime soaps."

ANNE L.
(WA-P-M5027-K9023-81)
"Mbr GLMA, AEGIS, IFGE, Emerald City. 44, 5'11, 160. Divorce pending; 2 children. Interests include art, dance, womyn's music, digital photography. Would like to correspond with other TSs (E-mail preferred) regarding: transition in the professional work place; caring for children; achieving acceptance within the lesbian community."

CHARLOTE R.
(WA-P-M5190-K11441-77)
"Single retired CD, 6'6", 220. Crossdressed since youth, never in public. Love underwear & dressing with friends. Travel a lot. Need advice on makeup & clothes. Have lots of time. Would like to hear from sisters. Worldwide story collection."

S. DEVAUX
(WA-M5306-K11778-78)
"Closeted WM CD, 40s, at a crossroad. Looking for new experiences, lifestyles. Anglophile, considerate. Like to find employment related to community. Would consider escorting passable TV/TS. Interested in history & identifying means by which community can gain acceptance. Will attempt corresponding."

DOROTHY LEIGH GUSTAVSON
(WA-M5520-K12189-80)
"SWM, 5'3", auburn hair, blue eyes, wants letters from CDs everywhere. Have lived full time as a girl since age 16, thanks to mother's approval & encouragement. Got permission to spend a summer in her clothing. I was hooked & never looked back."

JIMMY CHANZ
(WA-P-M5748-K9651-77)
"CD since early 20s. 5'10", 160, 44, blue eyes, brown hair, supportive SO. Enjoy lingerie, movies, music. Shy, though comfortable. Looking for attractive CD to correspond and possibly have lunch and/or drinks. Will answer all letters. Photo a must."

ANN J.
(WA-M5800-K12775-77)
"Widower age 65, in the closet since age 13, now trying to crack the door open. Would like to meet others in local area, accepting women. Late wife very much opposed. Don't currently pass. Discretion expected and provided."

DOUG S.
(WA-M5996-K4638-79)
"Sincere and caring SWM, 36, handsome, heavy-set and healthy. Looking for an attractive TS, any race, for a long term relationship full of love, honesty and passion. I'm professional, educated, easygoing and open-minded. Will value you for the special lady you are. Please send photo, I'll send mine."

ALASKA (995-999)

BOBBIE WENDY TUCEY
(AK-P-M3314-K6591-79)
"Mbr Berdache Society, Alaskan T-People. Attended Alaska Coronation '92, '93. WHM, 51, 5'5", 135. Supportive wife & grown & gone children. Interested in computers, art, play guitar & flute. Spend all my non-work time as a woman, & go out a lot. Love to communicate. Photo appreciated.

CANADA

GLEN M.
(CAN-P-M2740-K4423-79)
"Attended Coming Together '91, '92, '93, Fantasia Fair '91, '92, Be All '94, Erie '94, Harry Benjamin '93. SWM hetero, 5'11", 165. Interested in running, banjo playing, friendships, relationships, golfing. As a 'male-dresser,' regardless of role, I am always 'a man.' Passing not important. Presentability, relating & decorum essential."

KAREN FOX
(CAN-P-M3I40-K5888-77)
"Fantasia Fair since '92. Like 'puters, comic books, stockings, & high heels. CD since teens. Enjoy the feeling of silky stockings. Enjoyed walking outside with the cool air as Karen during my visits to P-town."

GLENDA T.
(CAN-M4809-K9040-80)
"Early 40s, single, hetero CD, 5'3", 155lb., Mbr of Cornbury. Never been out, but perhaps... Interests include musical theatre, travel & sports. I'd like to meet/correspond with sisters & supportive ladies in Victoria & Canada."

•ERICA JAYNE R.
(CAN-P-M3323-K6583-78)
'88 Coronation Ball. 5'10", 170, single. "Friendly, fun, & outgoing. Like flying, motorcycling, all things fem. Love going out as Erica. Out to friends. Want friendship & girl-talk. Open, honest, & discreet. Want to hear from others, esp. in Vancouver/Seattle area. Photo/phone nice."

ROBYN V.

(CAN-P-M2449-K3392-78)

"Mbr Gender Mosaic, Ottawa, & Xpressions, Toronto. Hetero TV, married, family, living SE Ontario. Like theater, classical & other music, skiing, & boating. Love to shop, dine & enjoy others en femme. Travel to NYC, Toronto, Ottawa & other cities. Could we get together sometime? Please write. Photos appreciated.

WENDY HOULE
(CAN-M4606-K10132-77)
"Divorced, single parent with four children to take care of. TV/TS, late 30s, dressing all my life. Want to correspond and/or meet other CD/TS/GG for helping me to improve my femme side. Looking for help & support. No sex letters."

ROBYNN MARIE LAYNE
(CAN-P-M4455-K3419-77)
"So little time-so many changes! TS, cross-live except work/family, single & staying that way! Grateful for support, determined to stay happy. Many interests, one over-whelming desire—to BE! Realistic, positive outlook seeking sincereity in correspondence. Still reserved, still loyal, answer all."

CHRISTINE B.
(CAN-P-M4486-K9701-77)
"Tall, slim, blue eyed brunette, hetero CD, early 40s. Interested in intelligent, sensitive, non-sexual correspondence with anyone who is either struggling or reveling in this difficult/joyous condition/opportunity life has presented to those of us who are gender gifted."

M.G.
(CAN-M4685-K10367-71)
"Single genetic male in 60s very interested in all transsexuals & androgynes. Would like to correspond with a M-F or F-M TS (especially the latter, & post-op). Must be willing to share experiences. Also would like to correspond with genetic females. Only TS, androgynes & genetic females, please write."

DAWNA TRACY
(CAN-P-M4787-K2066-79)
"Bi-pre-op TS, 30s, Mbr Xpressions (Toronto). Cross-live P/T. 6', size 16, seek new job, very public, hormones upgraded, 75% through electrolysis. Love music, laughter, sensuality, travel. Frustrated by estranged family/close friends. Feel fulfillment & self realization. Love career girl/party looks. Dream of Platonic mentor for career."

JERI CARLA
(CAN-P-M5404-K2800-79)
"Twenty years fem, 6', 220 on the way down. Sometimes passable, sometimes dress while shopping. Love to chat. Enjoy the outdoors, fishing, shooting, reloading, motorcycles, mountains. Looking for a woman to be my husband."

REBECCA ANN BENTLEY
(CAN-M5512-K12155-80)
"6'3". Love dressing up in suits, high heels, stockings, makeup. Would like to hear from other CDs in the Kingston area. Still looking to go out in public and to parties. I like movies, dancing. Sometimes I go to Toronto and Ottawa to help bring my feminine self out."

SASHA S. MARTIN
(CAN-M5697-K1285-77)
WM, 31, 5'10", 150, TS "Would like to be who I really am. Wish I could be on hormones. Stuck as a male as family extremely unaccepting. I value my family ties and friendships, so unhappily cannot seek completeness. May reply."

MONICA MARTIN
(CAN-P-M5638-K9601-77)
"MWM, professional. Striving for fulltime living with understanding SO. Likes: music, sports & making friends. Write if you have similar likes."

PAULA W.
(CAN-M5734-K12681-77)
"36-year-old, married TG would like to correspond with similarly situated singles/couples on a friendship only basis. My spouse is very supportive, and we are exploring the possibility of forming a social/support group in our area."

OVER SEAS

GERMANY

YVONNE THOMPSON
(GER-P-M3050-K5626-77)
"Hetero CD, 5'9, 158, ash blond hair, passable. Likes: photography, cooking, jazz of the '40s & '50s, traveling. Attd. 25th anvsry FPE-NE, EuroFantasia, Harmony Weekend. Like fine lingerie, elegant ladylike dresses, perfect makeup. Often en-femme in public. Want correspond with USA sisters."

CLAUDIA W.
(GER-P-M5576-K7311-77)
"TS. Interested in research on TV/TS & in the social network. Collecting mags, books, reports, etc. Want to correspond with others with similar interests."

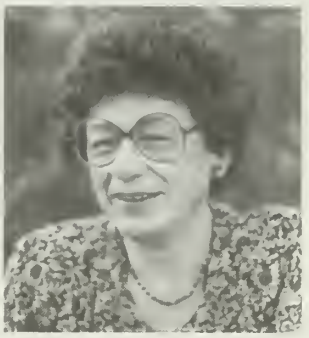
AUSTRIA

SUSANNE ANDERS
(AUSTRIA-M2774-K4604-80)
"Hetero CD, dressing since youth, end 50s. Member IFGE, Tri-Ess. Wife accepts, but not supportive. So-so passer, but going out. Travel extensively in Europe and USA: Fall Harvest, Fantasia Fair, Holiday En Femme, etc. Would like to correspond with CDs and partners. Like travelling, mountains, music, fashions."

YUGOSLAVIA

IVANA (EVE) S.
(YUGOSLAVIA-P-M5349-K4473-79)
"Mbr of Rose's. CD, TS inclinations. Looking for mature person/couple who can help & enjoy my transformation. Have refined taste for clothes, lingerie, shoes. Love stockings, corsets, high heels. I'll be your mistress, maid, wife or friend."

AUSTRAILIA



KYM AYRES
AUS-P-M4559-K9888-77
"Treasurer Seahorse Society NSW. MWM, CD, 5'5", 130, 10/12, arts teacher, degree in Visual Arts and Art History and Criticism. Practising artist. Likes: the arts, music, writing, photography. Accepting and supportive SO. Like to correspond with other CDs."

BRAZIL

RICK. G.
(BRA-M4560-0990-81)
"30-years-old, single, bi. "I would like to make friends with TV/TS/CDs. I love lingerie and high heels. I can travel anywhere. All letters answered."

TRANS-PERSONALS POLICY

Listings must be free of salacious material and are subject to editorial revision. Although we attempt to publish as many photos as possible, they are run on the basis of space available and suitability. The cut-off date for listings is approximately 30 days before publication—or 60 days before subscribers receive copies. Listings received after this date will appear in the following issue. If your listing was sent in prior to that date, please contact us and we will look into it. Write: Trans-personals, IFGE, PO Box 229, Waltham MA 02254-0229.

continued from page 21

In an environment of truth, the CD will often be surprised at how effortless his feminine nature is. He will also be surprised to learn that it often has little to do with how he is dressed. Rather, he learns that the feminine self offers an expanded way in which he can relate to himself and his world. And while the femme self decidedly loves the aesthetic appeal of the other gender, I believe it also transcends that aesthetic, and, ultimately does not depend upon presentation, but is rather anchored in a very special truth about one's self, and this truth is where beauty resides.

There have been periods in my life as an adult CD when I've gone for months without getting dressed. During those periods I simply didn't care about presentation, for I was consumed with other matters. My transgendered nature remained intact, even highly coherent, during these periods because, as I finally realized, it isn't ultimately grounded in appearance. This liberating recognition freed me from the compulsion of *having* to get dressed, or to resort to emotional bribery, deception, or other lies to express my true self.

In the final analysis, a CD is a CD whether or not he is dressed as a woman at any given moment. It's in our blood, as we like to say. The feminine self, although its cosmetic expression may ebb and flow throughout life, can be a source of truth, enlightenment, and self growth if we treat it with reverence.

(J. J. Allen, the pseudonymous author of the bestselling book, *The Man in the Red Velvet Dress: Inside the World of Crossdressing* (Birch Lane Press), is a longtime member of the California TG community.)

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TRANS-COMMUNITY

What's Doing at TG Clubs and Organizations Around the World

How do you tell a CD from a genetic woman? Just ask Gulf Coast Gender Alliance's (Houston TX) Vivian McKenzie who was seen outside grilling burgers one hot July afternoon, wearing pantyhose and high-heels, makeup running down her face...Who won First Prize and the Mayor's Trophy in Alameda, California's annual Pride Parade? Well, it wasn't "the two Bible cars with the unsmiling faces inside," instead it was the gals and guys of ETVC (San Francisco CA)...Speaking of "who was," who was the lady in high heel shoes racing around the Legends at Lakewood, Ohio this past June with a blue egg held out-stretched in a spoon before her? None other than Paradise Club (Cleveland OH) Pres. Diane Bender, heck bent on winning the nighteries' "Blue Moon" contest (you'll read no jokes here about it being the kind of sight you see only "once in a Blue Moon")...Admirers' hearts were aflutter with the announcement that Iowa Artistry (Cedar Rapids IA) had scheduled a Nightie Contest for their 8/10 meeting. But disappointment set in when it was learned the negligees would be on hangers and participants would guess who they belonged to...What, the classy crossdressers of CHIC (Long Beach CA) seen in a "French bordello"? No, they hadn't dreamed up a new way to raise funds for TG activism. The scene was The House of Madam Jo Jo's, an elegant new bistro, recreated in the mode of a European bawdyhouse...Longtime Chicago Gender Society (Chicago IL) stalwart Sharon Hart is recouping from a heart attack. Good luck, girl!...Gambling fever seems to have swept Sigma Epsilon (Rosewell GA), with a mob contingent of Jean, Renee, Stephanie, Cleo, Robin, Kimberly, Karen, Judy, Leslie, Crystal and Hayden decamping to Memphis, Tennessee's Hollywood Casino to enjoy a night of roulette, craps, slots, blackjack and just about any other game of chance. And why not? If TG people don't know how to take a chance, who does?...The Texas Association for Transsexual Support (Bellaire TX) has a new newsletter editor, Daniell McCleney, replacing Beth Richard. Welcome to the wonderful world of TG journalism, Daniell. Hope you have a suitably femme flackjacket, though...American Boyz (Baltimore, MD) founder, vampire author, and F2M hunk Gary Bowen has just been appointed At-Large Director, It's Time America...Now it's Neutral Corner (San Diego CA) girls Marilyn, Kelly and Melanie Yarbrough on the outreach trail, detailing TG issues for a special workshop organized by F2M activist Jean-Michel Brevelle, at a weekend-long conference of Life Line, a California lesbian and gay AIDS lobbying group...Members of the Miami Valley Unitarian Fellowship in Dayton, Ohio were wondering who the woman wearing Quentin Burgess' name tag was. Even though some had known Quentin for upwards of 30 years, few recognized him as his femme self, Crystal Club's (Columbus OH) "Jamie Elizabeth," during a special "Welcoming Congregation" for gays and lesbians and trans...What does the well-dressed M2F wear to her wedding? It's not what you might suppose. When Tau-Chi's (Houston TX) Brandi (Tim) and SO Vanessa winged to Vegas to tie the knot, they forwent clouds of organdy and taffeta, not to mention yards of lace. Brandi donned jeans and a Southwest Airlines shirt, while Vanessa wore bike shorts and an over-sized T-shirt. But, hey, both gals plan to "renew our wedding vows soon, at which time we will both be in gowns." Sounds like every girl's dream, whether genetic or just a part-timer...TG women looking for short dresses in size 14-16, can give Sacramento consignment shop, Fluffy's Too, a skip. Sacramento Gender Association's (Sacramento CA) Ava P. has reportedly been scooping up "anything that's an inch or more above the knee"...Debbie Johnson of Gemini Gender Group (Milwaukee WI) had a power breakfast (and then some) with GLBT lobbying groups It's Time Wisconsin and Action Wisconsin's Jaqueline Richter and State Representative Tammy Baker (definitely not "that" Tammy Baker). Trans concerns in their fair state were the subject... Congratulations are due Delaware Renaissance's (Wilmington DE) Wendy C., who bravely answered the call to duty and accepted the position of chapter secretary when personal circumstances prevented founding member Leslie F. from continuing in her duties...Here's a situation that might have tested any girl's sang-froid: CD Wendy C. (Steve) of the Emerald City group (Seattle WA) was gardening outside en femme, when a passing female stroller called, "Hi, Steve. You look very attractive today!" It was Wendy's boss's wife! Fortunately, Wendy had taken the precaution of coming out to her employers about being a CD, and there were no workplace repercussions. Could be a moral in there somewhere...Don't fret, Minnesota Freedom of Gender Expression (St. Paul MN) girls. Just Like A Woman has a happy ending. Too bad you didn't get to see it! Just don't spend so long gossiping before you start

the movie in the future. That way you won't run out of time before the Metro Club turns into a karaoke bar and you turn into pumpkins and have to vacate the establishment...Kudos to the Tiffany Club of New England's (Waltham MA) Brenda Burke. Ms. B. won praise from a rival newsletter editor for her able work on TCNE's club zine, Rosebuds. Phrases like "excellent," "success" and "good original material" were butted around freely in the review...There's a call out for "thoughts, meditations and/or prayers" for Transgender Education Association (Arlington VA) member Georgia Ann, who is recovering from "a very serious medical emergency"...Photographer Del Grace of England's FTM Network (London, UK) has embarked on a series of portraits of UK transmen for a possible book tentatively titled The FTM Visibility Project. Grace's goal: "To increase visibility and awareness about female-to-male transsexuality and to create images of ourselves that we are proud of"...The ladies of Xpressions (Toronto CN) were treated to a visit by "renowned who offered a workshop that left participants "brimming with enthusiasm, keen for her to return and work her magic again"...Good news for Southwestern party goers! Linda and Cynthia Phillips of the Boulton and Park Society (Bulverde TX) have uncancelled their famed Texas "T" Party gatherings. Look for another hot time in the Lone Star state in early 1997...Now, here's an idea worth emulating: Alpha Zeta's (Tempe AZ) secretary/treasurer has suggested that the club give anyone who serves as president for a full year their membership dues free for the duration of their term. Maybe other clubs should consider making a similar offer. Gosh knows, helming one is a thankless, heart-breaking task...Australia seems to be becoming a hotbed of trans activity. Recent Chameleon Society (Melbourne, VIC) meetings have consistently broken all previous attendance records, despite some appalling weather...It's a long way from Florida to Brazil, but it seemed just like home to Ann of Phi Epsilon Mu (Winter Park FL). When she walked into her hotel room she found HBO in English with Portuguese sub-titles. Members of Minnesota Freedom of Gender Alliance would have been thrilled! The featured movie? Just Like A Woman! Talk about a global village...Woman's best friend may not be her faithful canine. Kimberly of the Sunshine Club (Hadley MA) discovered this the hard way one fine night when she stepped out of her bathroom crossdressed only to find herself face-to-face with her loyal pooch. Said pooch took one look at Kimberly and decided some strange woman had invaded the house. At least Kimberly needn't worry about burglars. Her dog took a leap at the intruding stranger and Kimberly took a leap for the bedroom door...Does this sound familiar? Candy Scott, president of Innvestments (Sagamore MA), has been heard lamenting that, "I have nothing to wear and needs three closets to keep it all in." Ms. Scott gets no sympathy from this department. Any girl with three closets has no complaint coming...Maybe it's time to consider striking a Trans Medal of Honor. If so, the first one should go to eight girls of Lexington's Royal Sovereign Imperial Court (Lexington KY). Stopping off for a drink after a Coronation, they were caught in a crossfire between a local cop and a fugitive. When the smoke cleared, they spied the seriously wounded officer lying on the ground. While one queen cradled the officer's head on her Armani coat, two others dialed 911 with an "officer down" report. Their prompt action saved the officer's life and resulted in the capture of his assailant...Speaking of drag queens, Noriko Anderson, one of the few traditional shamans practicing within the Asian-American community, says the term is short for "Dragon Queen," the traditional name for female impersonators in Chinese opera...Is King a queen? Visitor's to the Minneapolis gay/les/bi/trans Pride festival saw bestselling horror novelist Stephen King in a white satin skirt carrying a sign that read, "Someone you know may be a crossdresser." How could that be, when the writer was safely ensconced in Bangor, Maine, working away on his next opus? Friends have long described the puckish King as a cut up, but in this case he was a cut out, a cardboard cut out, that is, courtesy of the City of Lakes Crossgendered Community (Minneapolis MN)...ord from Transsexual OUTreach (Cedar Rapids IA) is that the Iowa City city fathers and mothers are considering making a video for employers about TG discrimination. Cards and letters of commendation are recommended...It was every girl's nightmare: caught without her bra and panties at a critical social occasion. Happened to River City Gender Alliance's (Council Bluffs IA) Roxy Hoffman. Ms. Hoffman arrived at her hotel room to dress for a meeting only to discover she'd forgotten to bring those two critical items. More was to come. When she dropped in en homme at the local Victoria's Secret and asked for a bra in 38B with medium-sized panties, the clerk cheerfully supplied the items and asked if she would like to try them on! Talk about being read in reverse!...

JMS

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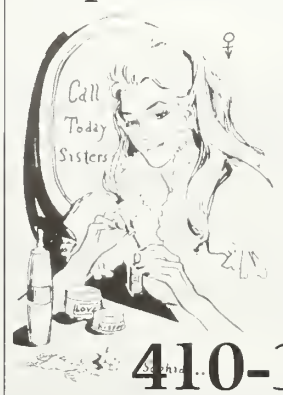

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Calendar of TG Events

November 1996

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Fall Harvest, St. Louis MO
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(309) 755-2310

6-10:
9th Annual Gay & Lesbian Task Force "Creating Change" Conference, Alexandria VA
2320 17th St. NW, Washington DC 20009-2702

8-10:
Rainbow Spirit Convergence
Dixon Mountain NC P.O. Box 18332, Ashville NC 28814

TBA:
Riverside Gala Weekend, Erie PA
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April 1997

15-20
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Updated October, 1996

May 1997

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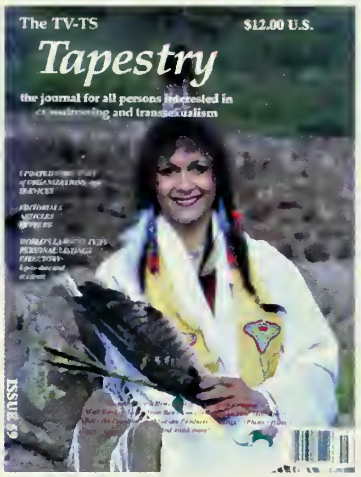

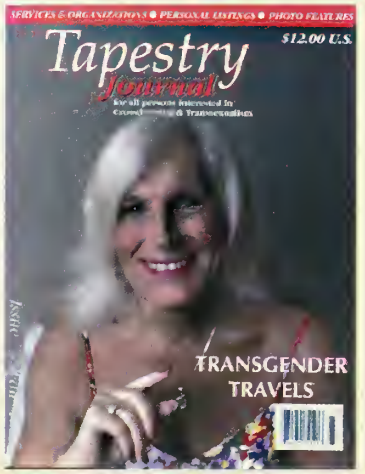

Tapestry: The Later Years 1990-1995

Vivian D. Allen

One afternoon after school, lying on the floor and casually glancing at the back page of the newspaper on my way to the funnies, my progress was arrested: Christine Jorgensen had just returned from Denmark. She had left New York as George Jorgensen and returned as Christine after surgery, the article said, that had turned her from a male into a female. There was even a picture of her getting off the airplane. "Okay," I said to myself, "there is a way. It's not going to happen tomorrow or the next day, but there is a way to change an impossible situation into a possible situation." Life could become livable.

Ten or twelve years later, on another afternoon, as I walked past a magazine rack on my way to or from getting something else, my eyes were snagged once again, this time by a magazine about drag queens. This was a whole different, broader affirmation of my reality. Christine Jorgensen proved that I was not the only one in the world, but this magazine showed that some kind of *us* existed in enough numbers to justify a whole magazine. I bought it and took it home. Now there was the, "Yes, I am... No I'm not... Well, not exactly, but sort of... Oh, my!" It was hard to see where I fit in, or how, but if there were this whole world of men who dress as women in this way, maybe there are other worlds, one of which might be full of people just like me. What a scary thought.

It was less than ten years after that when I got to my first support group, the local FPE chapter, and another seven or eight before I joined the Tiffany Club, shortly after it started. Now things were beginning to almost sort of start fitting together.

In another life, physics was my one truth, a focus for (escape from) the life I lived, and a noble fulfillment for the life that would come to be when I grew up. (On other days it was motorcycles and fast cars, but that's another story.) I went to a college that had a reputation for turning the untutored into profound scientists. (In fact it was not far from that college where I found that first drag magazine.) I became intimate enough with Newton's laws to revel in their beautiful, elegant simplicity; knowledgeable enough to sometimes be able to tell the elegant from the simply competent proof; cozy enough to laugh when someone told a math joke (I got most, well, certainly many of them, too). I could even understand some of the labs.

In the fullness of time, however, it was clear that Maxwell was a lot subtler than Newton, and it wouldn't be until I was well into grad school that my understanding of science would get into this century. Besides, there was this guy who had written about this county in Mississippi with a lot of weird and interesting people in it, and another who had written about a man walking around Dublin on a rainy June day, and what is the difference between further and farther, and why in God's name is a sycophant called a sycophant?

When I graduated, I went into teaching science and math, reverting to what I knew was simple and straight forward, expecting that it would be as simple and straight forward to everyone else. Also confident that I had science's lack of ambiguity to fall back on if the going got rough. I found that I knew more than I knew, and understood less than I thought. The obvious was not only cloaked in mystery, it wore a garland of hissing vipers that threatened the innocent minds before me.

My trip into the editor's chair at *Tapestry* was similarly innocent. I had watched it grow from a small newsletter run off in Merissa's basement into the 160-page perfect-bound journal it became, printed by a real printer. I had a vision for this periodical. The larger it became, the harder it was for me to keep my mouth shut. When I was offered the post, it was hard to just say yes.

In order for *Tapestry* to do its job, it must sell wherever magazines are

continued on page 27

Over the years, the following individuals have contributed mightily to *Transgender Tapestry's* current success. IFGE, its staff and Board of Directors wish to take this opportunity to thank and acknowledge them all.

Editors-in-Chief:
Merissa Sherrill Lynn
Vivian D. Allen
Jean Marie Stine

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Jan Dixon
Veronica Brown
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Dan Riley
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Yvonne Cook-Riley

continued from page 26

sold, it must be able to lie on any table or desk, it must be able to be given to and referred to by any young person, parent, teacher, counselor, helping professional, or friend without any ambiguity or embarrassment. The trip from the newsletter *Tapestry* was to the magazine it must become is a two-step process. The first step is to produce it like a magazine: get serious about orthography and appearance, editorial style and consistency. Neatness and accuracy do count. The second step is to go mainstream, to shift the focus so that it becomes a journal by and about transgendered people, not simply a means of communication between and among them.

I knew I had the skill and know-how to get *Tapestry* through that first step. I climbed aboard with joy in my heart and a blue pencil gripped aggressively between my teeth. You'll never guess who learned a lot more about what she already knew! And a lot more about how the articles that combine to make a particular issue come together. We tried many different things, and made a few pretty big mistakes, but everything, especially the mistakes, seemed to push us along to a tighter, cleaner magazine that tried to speak to everybody whether or not they were satisfied or thought so.

The beginning was a crash course in psychotherapy, layout design, editing, and English, with a co-seminar run by Stacey Toon (as Art Director) in how not only to operate as if the impossible were going to be accomplished, but actually doing it on a pretty consistent basis. It never would have happened without her.

There were issues around an issue, issues with a focus, issues with a shotgun approach, and there were just issues. But there was a constant effort to make the magazine inclusive, informative, challenging-but-not-threatening, and always, always, more like a real magazine.

The big lesson I learned was that no matter how different we wanted to make a particular issue, they all had to have a constancy to them. There had to be something in it for everybody. Every issue has to work for the person who sees it for the first time, as well as for the person who has been reading it for years. And always there had to be a thread, a tenor of the whole piece that said to the person who held their first copy in their hands, "You are not alone. Come along with us and learn who you are, and how to make room in your life so that you can live before you die."

(Vivian D. Allen is a former Editor-in-Chief of this publication.)

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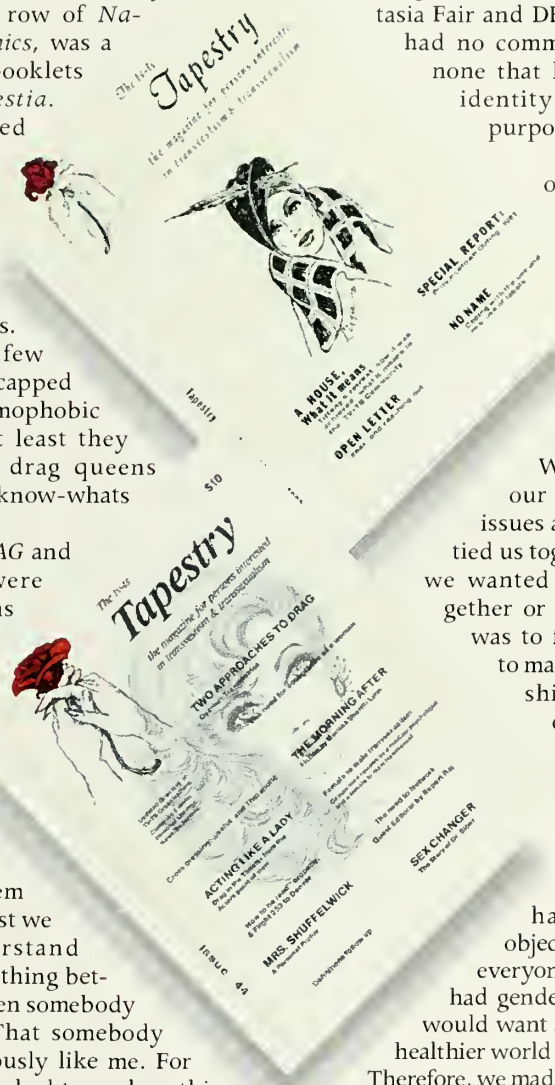
called *DRAG*, published by Lee Brewster in New York City. Although it was a commercial publication catering to the drag community with a dominating emphasis on marketing Lee's Mardi Gras Boutique, it wasn't about sex. It talked about political action, and social events, and the lives of real people. *DRAG* was by far the best publication I had found, but it still did not cater to my issues. On the top shelf of Cherrystone's library, stacked like a row of *National Geographics*, was a collection of booklets called *Transvestia*. They contained an endless supply of intensely boring 'shopping' and 'passing in public' articles. There were a few logically handicapped and overtly homophobic articles, but at least they weren't about drag queens with their you-know-whats hanging out.



If *DRAG* and *Transvestia* were the best that was available, then it was clear we (cross-dressers and transsexuals) needed something better. The problem was twofold, first we had to understand what that 'something better' was, and then somebody had to do it. That somebody looked suspiciously like me. For three years I worked to analyze this kind of publishing and what the audience needed. I read everything I could find, talked to everyone I could corner, and studied the pros and cons of every group and service. I even cornered Virginia Prince, the publisher of *Transvestia*, to get her slant on things. Gradually, I gathered around me people who also wanted something better, people such as Pat West, Dee Dee Watson, Carole Mayfield and Frances Gibson. We talked, and researched, and worked, and talked some more.

Without getting into bump-and-grind details about issues and strategies of the day, we came to the conclusion that the primary problem was we didn't have a community. We had an enormous identifiable group of people that had crossgender issues, and an identifiable customer market. We also had a few small national special interest organizations such as the Society for the Second Self and the International Alliance for Male Feminism, a slew of itty-bitty local groups like Cherrystone and the Albany TVIC, and a few personal growth events such as Fantasia Fair and DREAM. But, we had no community, at least none that had a common identity or a common purpose.

We had our crossgender issues in common, but we had nothing that would help us feel like a community. We already had our various gender issues as the knot that tied us together, whether we wanted to be tied together or not. The trick was to figure out how to make this relationship a symbiotic one, mutually beneficial to all. For our relationship to be mutually beneficial, we had to have a common objective. We figured everyone, whether they had gender issues or not, would want a happier, safer, healthier world in which to live. Therefore, we made building a better world in which to live, our objective. To do that we had to learn to understand and respect our differences, to find the compromises that would enable us to live and work together. For that to work, we needed to generate an atmosphere of cooperation, to accept the responsibility to care about each other, and put out some effort on each other's behalf.

Our basic plan was this: We would create our community by focusing on building a better world in which to live. Then, using our crossgender issues as the platform from which to

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A Glittering Season of TG Events

1996 A Pictorial Review

From January to December, the transgender world plays host and hostess to more than two dozen weekend and week-long gatherings, conferences and conventions. Presented by various regional and national TG organizations, in discreet hotels, these functions are half educational conference and half social occasions-cum-parties. Most are open to TG people of all types; some focus on the specific needs of specific groups: crossdressers, transsexuals, M2Fs (male-to-female) and F2Ms (female-to-male), spouses and significant others, activists, those with a spiritual bent, and others. The usual bill of fair features vendors of apparel, cosmetics and books, plus seminars, workshops and lectures, along with parties, dinners, awards ceremonies, group shopping expeditions, supportive companions, and a great deal of convivial conversation and sharing of personal experiences.

But the exciting, empowering world of transgender events doesn't stop there. Throughout each year, there is literally a cornucopia of smaller, one- or two-day (or evening) affairs. Held in private homes or secure public venues, they include happenings like this year's $100-a-plate tribute to Outreach Institute Executive Director, Ariadne Kane's three decades of service to the trans community, or the annual Xmas, Valentine's Day and Halloween parties many local clubs host, or the Sunshine Club's recent lecture and dinner with famed SRS surgeon, Yvon Menard, or Holly Boswell's Kindred Spirits gatherings, or any one of a hundred others.

For those who have never come out or dressed in public before, these events provide a uniquely supportive atmosphere in which to try it safely for the first time.

For those who are members of local groups but are closeted in their home town, these TG gatherings offer a rare chance to gather in a distant locality where they can dress without fear of outing themselves.

For spouses and SOs of TGs, especially those newly coming to terms with it, such conferences are a place of mind's ease and heart's ease, filled with explanations, professionals, understanding, sympathy, and others like themselves.

For anyone who has never attended a major TG affair, these forums are occasions for self-growth, knowledge and forming new friendships.

For everyone, they are an opportunity to meet celebrated community members, hear experts describe the newest psychological understanding about CD, TG and other behavior, the physiological effects of hormones, the ins and outs of SRS, make up, fashion, passing, making relationships with spouses and significant others work, and attend special presentations exploring CD, TS, TG, M2F, F2M, pre-op, post-op and non-op issues.

1996 was no exception. It, too, witnessed its share of TG celebrations. From winter to fall, one glittering event seemed to follow another. Below, arranged by season, are some of this years highlights (a list that could not possibly be inclusive without filling all the pages of this publication).

Winter

Riverside Gala Weekend, Erie, PA, presented by the Erie Sisters support group. Traditionally one of the last events of the year. Open to the entire gender community, with the usual Bill of Fare.

First Event, Boston area, presented by The Tiffany Club of New England (TCNE). Traditionally the first TG event of the year, and open to the entire gender community, plus the usual Bill of Fare.

Spring

Texas T Party, Dallas area, presented by The Boulton and Park Society. Open to the entire gender community and reputedly a great party-oriented conference, plus the usual Bill of Fare.

IFGE National Convention, various locations around the U.S., presented by the International Foundation for Gender Education in conjunction with local organizations (the California Dreamin' group in 1997). Plusher and more up-scale than many other cons, open to the entire gender community, it features a major awards ceremony, world-class TG entertainment, and all the usual Bill of Fare, though on a much larger scale, along with a far more extensive range of programs by doctors, therapists and academics who specialize in TG issues.

Full Circle of Women, usually somewhere on the East Coast. Focuses on TG consciousness-raising and personal growth, open to all those "identifying as women."

California Dreamin', various locations in California, presented by a consortium of regional clubs. Another outstanding TG event, open to the entire gender community, with the usual Bill of Fare.

EuroFantasia, various locations in Europe, presented by a consortium of organizations. Open to the entire gender community, features plenty of U.S. attendees, plus the usual Bill of Fare. (Postponed this year, but well worth attending when it returns.)

Paradise in the Poconos I, Canadiensis, PA, presented by JoAnn Roberts and the good folk at CDS. Crossdresser- and partner-oriented weekend of glamour and fashion, plus the usual Bill of Fare.

TCNE Spring Fling, Provincetown, MA, presented by TCNE. For all TGs, especially those with SOs and spouses. Shopping and club-hopping in one of the world's most TG-friendly resort cities.

continued on next page

Winter Wonderland

First Event

Summer

Be All You Want To Be, various locations in Mid-America, presented by various regional groups. A spectacular event, plus the usual Bill of Fare.

International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy, Houston area, presented by the ICTLEP. Dedicated to serious discussions, workshops and focus groups aimed at affecting local and national legal policy toward TG individuals.

Spouses and Partners International Conference for Education, various locations around the U.S., presented by SPICE. For CDs and spouses, with a no-dressing policy, and the usual Bill of Fare.

Fall

F2M Conference of the Americas, various locations around the U.S., presented by F2M International. For female-to-male CDs and TSs, along with "butch" women in general and their spouses, SOs and admirers, plus the usual Bill of Fare.

Paradise in the Poconos II (see listing above).

Rite of Passage, various locations on the East Coast. Gathering of post-operative women.

Southern Comfort, various locations in the South, presented by regional clubs. Well-liked party and educational gathering, open to the entire gender community, with the usual Bill of Fare.

Mardi Gras, Canada. Open to the entire gender community, with the usual Bill of Fare.

Fantasia Fair, Provincetown, MA, presented by the Outreach Institute for Gender Studies. Perhaps the most lavish, extended (7+ days) TG event of all. Open to the entire gender community, with more than the usual Bill of Fare.

TCNE Fall Fling (see listing for Spring Fling).

Fall Harvest, various locations in the Mid-west, presented by Mid-America Gender Group Information Exchange (MAGGIE). Another fabulous TG event, open to the entire gender community, with the usual Bill of Fare.

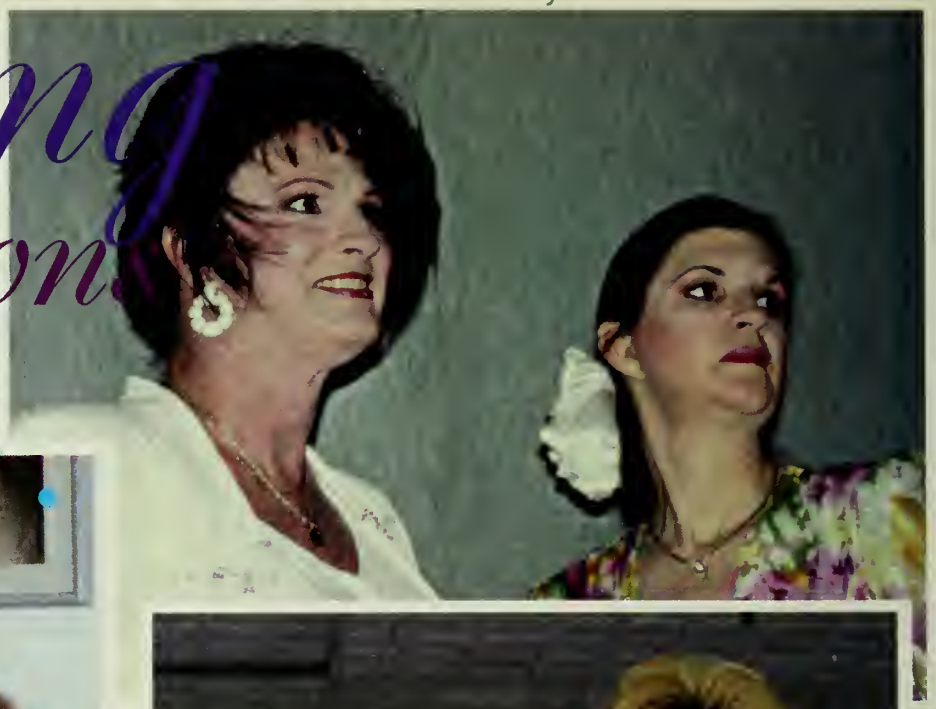
(See the Calendar of Major Events in our special pull-out insert, or the help lines or webpages of your local TG organizations for a more detailed, updated listing.)

First Event

First Event

Spring Sensation

Texas T-Party



Texas T-Party

California Dreamin'

California Dreamin'

WHEN TGS GATHER A DREAM COME TRUE

TCNE Spring Fling

Recently, Kate Bornstein talked about the "poor me" viewpoint that many of us (transgendered others) adopt—"look at me, here I am in Plum Valley, Pennsylvania, where I would dearly love to put on my feminine attire and a short sundress and go out and be a GIRL, except that my neighbors would probably run me out of town on a rail." But as I read today's three page letters from closeted TGs dripping self-pity all over my desk, I wonder why none of these benighted dwellers in the Outer Reaches are willing to let me persuade them to come to First Event or Fantasia Fair or (further inland) to Southern Comfort or the Tri-Ess Holiday En Femme.

But these closeted folk, for all their lamentation of loneliness, wouldn't dare go to the sort of place where they can dress in all their fantasies and BE A WOMAN for three days or so. ("Would you like coffee, miss?" the hotel waitress asks politely.) But hell no, they don't go.

Instead, they stay home and weep in their private closet. Not enough guts to put on a skirt and go make a bank deposit, (I LOVE that sort of an in-your-face gesture—put a couple of thousand in!) The bank will remember who YOU are! But these TGs haven't enough sense to go where they will be appreciated by the locals. (Let them love you for the money you are spending.)

When I got to the point where a trip to the supermarket dressed was no longer a big deal, I signed up for Shangri-La in Biloxi, Mississippi, then went to Chicago for the GGA Convention (the first major TG con, no one knew what would be going on). and to Tiffany's "spring" fling in Provincetown, nearly froze to death—and to a weekend put on by Lee's Mardi Gras, also in P'town. By then, I would have signed up for ANY weekend. Each one was more fun than I thought you could have legally.

I didn't have vacation time to worry about. I was a part-time worker. I'd say, "I'll see you Tuesday" and go home to pack. I did have money to run out of, but, one can borrow that; whereas, I am sure that I presently cannot borrow a week out of next year, at ANY interest rate. The "conventions" I went to were pure gold, for experience, and I learned ever so much about who I was. I went to the first Texas T-Party, the first Southern Comfort, the first California Dreamin', and I don't regret a minute or a dollar that I spent.

If the people who put these events on are willing to work hard to give us all experience, we, the closeted, bashful TVs and TSs should do our best to go. More of us will make the weekend more successful. I've been to eighty, see you at the next one, and ENJOY!

As Oscar Hammerstein wrote: "If you don't have a dream, how you gonna make a dream come true?"

(Holly Cross is a pioneer of and contributor to the TG community, a member of multiple organizations including the XX Club, the Tiffany Club of New England, and others. As an editorial associate, she has been an important part of this publication almost since its inception.)

IFGE Convention

TNCE Spring Fling

Summer Sizzlers

Ariadne Kane Dinner

Ariadne Kane Dinner

International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy.

International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy.

International Conference on Transgender Law and Employment Policy.

Summer Sizzlers

Sunshine Club With Dr. Menard

F2M Conference

Sunshine Club

F2M Conference with Dr. Brassard

Fall Flings

Fantasia Fair

Fantasia Fair

When TGs Gather Building Community

The ostensible purpose of most TG conferences is education and socializing. But they also serve a much grander, more significant purpose. Transgendered people have a need to create their own community: a family of choice, not birth. Within such a community they can find protection, strength, love, and true intimacy.

Long ago, Freud recognized that the group is far more powerful than the combination of its individual members. It endows each member with a spirit of belonging, and a vision of triumphant living.

A professional client called one day, and left an urgent message for me. Don was a crossdresser. Like many of the TG people I see, Don felt enormous relief when he first started talking to me about his gender issues. But aside from time spent with me, and chatting with a few people online as 'Donna,' his femme self doesn't have much opportunity to breathe in life.

Don had been giving Donna reign the night before in a risky context. He had gone out dressed, had too much to drink, and ended up in the police station. His wife was not pleased when she was awakened to come and post bail.

As we started our session, Don talked about his humiliation at being "caught," his deteriorating relationship with his wife, and the sense of isolation he feels most of his waking hours. "Weekends are the only time I can dress and be Donna. You don't know what it's like. I'm so happy when I'm myself, and then something like this happens. I feel so ashamed; I want to burn all my clothes and hide under the covers."

While waiting in my outer office, don had noticed a flier about an upcoming community event, Fall Harvest, to be held in Iowa. He pulled it out and showed it to me. "I've never been to one of these events, or even considered going," he said. "What's the purpose of these conventions, and 'beails?'"

Don was so agitated that I didn't know if he really wanted an answer to his question or if he was just nervously making small talk. I told him that that people who are free of the constraints of a single gender are unlike other people. Alone, they often wither on the vines of loneliness and alienation. Together, they can share, affirm, enrich, and rejoice.

I also explained that all cultures that flourish have three things in common — ritual, community, and celebration — and that people flourish in cultures that possess all three. These elements are an essential foundation for an individual's emotional health and well-being, I said, and TG gatherings offer all three. There Don and Donna both could find that spriit of belonging and vision of triumphant living" we all need to help nourish and sustain us along the way.

Donna and I will be at Fall Harvest. We hope to see you there.

(Dr. Randi Ettner is a well-known therapist in the transgendered community. Her newly released book, Confessions of a Gender Defender, *is available through the IFGE bookstore.)*

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work, we would gather around us people who wanted to work together to make it happen. In so doing, we would maintain an attitude of dignity, learn about each other, learn to respect each other's differences, and care about each other. While keeping our thoughts on our global objectives, we would begin locally by creating an organization of like-minded people. That organization was the Tiffany Club, founded in 1978. If people who wanted to become involved in our efforts asked, "What's in it for me?" our standard answer was, "An opportunity to do something for somebody else besides yourself, and have fun in the process."

The founding of the Tiffany Club made it possible for us to create the *Tapestry*, a primary tool for the development of our community, and for the achievement of our objective—building a better world. Although published by Tiffany (later IFGE), the *Tapestry* would serve as an outreach, educational, and communications device for the entire community. The image of dignity, and the attitudes of respect and love were paramount. Articles would be balanced among all factions of the community, without bias. Issues could be debated, but personal attacks and negativity would not be allowed.

Although we were well aware people enjoyed gossip, we resolved we would never stoop so low as to attack another organization, service, or member of our community, or sink to tabloid journalism for the sake of sizzle or to increase sales. To do so, we believed, would tear us apart instead of bring us together. It would turn transgender people into customers, and not a community, and would turn other organizations and services into competitors, instead of working partners. It would turn the *Tapestry* into just another tabloid-style publication, serving no other purpose than to make money. Worst of all, it would fail as a *community building* tool.

In Provincetown, October, 1981, during Fantasia Fair, a group of more than twenty TV/TS community leaders gathered in the Chicago House, on Winslow Street. (Historical note: This meeting, coordinated by Betty Ann Lind, was the first major attempt to bring national TV/TS leaders together. It became known as the first Winslow Street meeting, and laid the groundwork for the creation of IFGE, the Coming Together Convention, and the *Tapestry*. The second Winslow Street meeting in 1990, produced IFGE's Winslow Street Endowment Fund.)

The purpose of the meeting was to discuss issues and ideas as to how we could build a stronger, more interactive community. During that meeting I introduced our concept for the development of the *Tapestry* as a community-building tool. After much spirited, often zealous discussion about competition with other organizations and publications, and sharing ideas, the group voted to support my efforts by becoming contributors, subscribers, and giving help with distribution. Once the group validated the structure and the intent of the publication with their ideas and promises of support, the *TV/TS Tapestry* was off and running as our community's primary publication. After the Fair, in compliance with the recommendations from the Winslow Street meeting, I published *Tapestry*, which had been being issued as the Tiffany Club's newsletter, in a magazine format (issue # 33), complete with cover, a directory of organizations, services and coming events, and a personal listing section.

By 1986, the *Tapestry* had grown to 148 glossy pages, perfect binding, and we had begun to feature our community's leaders on the cover. We believed featuring our leaders on the cover would be a way of acknowledging and introducing them and their achievements to the world. In the end, before it was turned into the *Transgender Tapestry*, the *Tapestry* had grown to 164 pages, carried over 800 personal listings, distributed information gratis for and about over 300 TG organizations, and nearly 10,000 copies were distributed worldwide. It had become a primary information and reference source for mental health professionals, libraries, and hot lines. It had become the most widely read, comprehensive, and respected transgender publication in the world. It had, in fact, become an effective tool for building a community, and a better world in which to live.

(Merissa Sherryll Lynn is the Founding Director (Ret.) of the IFGE and former Editor-in-Chief of Transgender/Tapestry. *She currently resides in the Boston area and is* writing *a "spiritual autobiography.")*

Views & Reviews from the World of Media

TRANSMISSIONS

Great for Professionals and TGs Alike

Counseling in Genderland by Niela Miller (Different Path Press)

Reviewed by Gianna E. Israel

Validation, acceptance of gender differences in others, and compassion are themes consistently represented in Niela Miller's book. This resource is primarily written for use by therapists who have little or no information about transsexuals, transvestites, and other gender minorities. Though she focuses on self-acceptance and the therapeutic process of male-to-female persons, Miller also addresses issues of interest to anyone undergoing transition or who wishes to incorporate crossdressing into their lives.

It is a well known fact that for far too long transgender persons have suffered as a result of therapeutic processes which reinforce inflexible social stereotypes, particularly for those persons who transition and live as members of the opposite gender. Ms. Miller advises therapists to examine their own belief systems, and encourages transgender men and women to start fulfilling their internal needs. Most importantly, however, she is one of the first actively practicing gender specialists to specifically state that having a transgender identity is not in and of itself pathologically diseased. With that old dragon set aside, healing and building social and relationship skills are put in proper perspective.

As I also am an actively practicing gender specialist, there are specific sections of her book I especially enjoyed and related to. Chapter One, "Beginnings," introduces this specialty by highlighting different types of telephone calls therapists may encounter during their first contact with a person having gender issues. Here, and throughout the book, Miller helps therapists identify issues which are commonly presented by persons who wish to transition permanently, as well as by those who crossdress for emotional release. While her focus is primarily on transsexuals and crossdressers, she also briefly recognizes the "polygendered" or transgenderist individual.

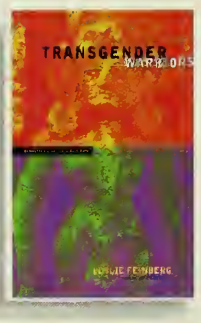
Addressing personal relationship dynamics is the one therapy focus which presents the most difficulty for the majority of transgender men and women, as well as for the therapists who are not full-time gender specialists. People often assume that the majority of rights weigh in on the side of the partner who is inconvenienced by their loved one's gender issues. As a result, transgender persons are typically expected to sacrifice, where in many cases compromise can equally benefit both partners. Ms. Miller does an excellent job of illustrating compromise, as well as disclosure skills and other necessary communication tools required by a transgender persons. She also encourages men and women take personal responsibility for their lives.

Throughout the book I appreciated Ms. Miller's sharing her personal reflections in working with transgender clients, and also in "outing" her own differently gendered expressions. While sharing about herself is in no way unique, her doing so reminds readers that we all have experiences and feelings. Additionally, she introduces metaphor and dream-analysis as useful exploration tools. In doing this she shares not only the dreams of her clients but also her own. Finally, the thumbnail sketches of client histories provide good basic information, and are not deprecating with self-pity, as is so often the case in other resources.

Ms. Miller's authorship clearly reflects her training in Humanist Psychology, which focuses on the potential of the individual and addresses the possibilities of the future rather than on the dysfunctions of the past. Numerous publications in the past have focused on psychoanalytic approaches to understanding gender identity issues. *Counseling in Genderland* presents the human side of transgender persons' needs and life-journeys.

(Gianna Israel is a San Franscisco Area counslor specializing in TG issues.)

TG History! A Must Read!



Transgender Warriors by Leslie Feinberg (Beacon Press)

Reviewed by Diane Sutton

Though the themes are daunting, *Transgender Warriors,* by Leslie Feinberg, is not a dull and rigorous academic work, but a personal story. It is an important book, different from other contemporary books on gender.It is primarily a history of transgender community as a whole, e.g., drag kings and queens, crossdressers, masculine women, feminine men, transsexuals, intersexuals. At only 197 pages, including three appendices, notes, and a bibliography, it is a little book about big issues: the existence throughout time and cultures of transgendered individuals, the origin and entrenchment of oppression in western civilization, the continuing significance of the women's movement, and the rights of individuals.

Early in the text Feinberg tells us that she grew up in the 1950s as a masculine female, working class, and only one of four Jews in her school. She has experienced alienation and oppression, and in many ways this book is the footnoted result of her search to answer, "Have we always existed? Have we always been hated?"

She establishes immediately that transgendered people have existed throughout recorded history in all parts of the world, and that "ancient and diverse cultures allowed people to choose more sex/gender paths, and this diversity of human expression was honored as sacred." The documentation on Native Americans is unquestionable, as well as the artwork and rituals from the Middle East, Africa, India, and Asia.

In pursuing what caused a turnaround from social acceptance to intolerance and persecution, she limits her investigation to western civilization and begins by asking why there is explicit language in Deuteronomy (1100-700 BCE) against crossdressing and sex changes. Her thesis is that when patriarchal societies replaced communal societies, remnants from these earlier societies, especially those not directly aligned with male domination, were threatening and consequently overtly repressed.

We are reminded that ancient Greece, where there is ample evidence of transgenderism, was a slave state still sharpening class distinctions. Crossdressing Dionysus is especially interesting as a "god of the weak and oppressed, especially women, and an opponent of the established order." Among other developments in ancient Rome, class divisions were deepened as sexes were separated into distinct legal categories, the patriarchal heterosexual family became a state dictate, and Dionysus' festivals (a "make love not war" god) were banned by the Senate in 186 BCE. Still, there is, record of a crossdressing emperor sev-

eral hundred years later!

In bringing us to the present time, Feinberg cites many examples of persistent transgender expression, including European traditions which are seen in the United States as routine elements of Mardi Gras, mummer's parades, and, of course, Halloween. She also discusses the advent of "passing," e.g., George Sand, as a product of gender oppression.

As she approaches June 1969 and the Stonewall Rebellion, *Transgender Warriors* changes from a personal search and, tidy historical summary to advocacy on current issues related to eliminating gender oppression. She notes that the women's movement in the US exposed the institutionalized oppression of women and the assumption of male privilege, both of which were coincident with transgender oppression. She finds this hopeful, of course, but far from sufficient.

What does it take to dispense with color-coding babies and immediate assumption of gender? What are possible changes that will allow a transgendered person to use a public restroom in safety? What purpose is served by having sex categories on basic identification papers? Don't individuals have the right to make decisions about their own bodies? If not, what are the limits and who sets them?

The strength of this book is its interesting detail and concise response to the two questions that got Feinberg started. Yes, we exist today and have always existed; we have a history. No, we haven't always been marginalized. Any reader will appreciate the immense amount of research she has done to start to tell the story of transgender expression as part of humanity's story.

I found the advocacy for transgender rights in the later chapters, though clearly passionate, less interesting because there are many additional resources and voices to listen to in this regard. The closing is especially compelling, though, and personal, like the beginning. She presents photographs and profiles of more than two dozen contemporary warriors, underscoring how richly varied the transgender community is.

(Diane Sutton is a member of the Tiffany Club of New England.)

Crossdressing Behind the Berlin Wall

I Am My Own Woman by
Charlotte von Mahlsdore (Cleis Press)
Reviewed by Cally Nichols

The autobiography of Charlotte von Mahlsdorf is a compelling story of a transsexual and her desire to build a museum and preserve a culture under a regime at odds with the world. Always fascinated by the beauty of furniture, and the simple things that fill a home, she began collecting pieces as a child. Under the Third Reich she witnessed Jewish friends and neighbors taken from their homes. She survived the bombing of Germany, prison and the Berlin wall. In this historical context her collection took on a greater meaning as it became her life's work.

By the age of ten she had already collected hundreds of clocks, some from the junk pile. Her happiest moments as a youth were rummaging through used furniture shops. From the vivid description one can almost smell the musty wood drawers, and dusty chaotic clutter of clocks, picture frames, candle sticks, and knickknacks. From these little shops she begins her education as a museum curator.

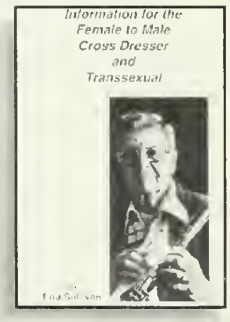
If the word "closet" is in this book at all it's a place for her apron and dust cloth which she so often uses. Even after realizing her goal to establish a museum, Charlotte remains a humble yet determined person. How could it happen that a person in a totalitarian state with an abusive father functioned as a transvestite? Lothar Berfelde, her birth name, became aware of her feminine nature as a child. Her loving mother and great-uncle provided her with unwavering support and role models of strength. She loved her great-uncle as one would a father, and despised her real father enough to murder him. Her Aunt Louise, a lesbian, told her at age 13 that "God had played a joke on them, you should have been a girl and I a man." It is her aunt who teaches her what transsexualism is. In this single instance she was more fortunate then many of us today.

Her story reveals the fears of the German people as they witness the abduction of the Jews. At a loss of what to do, she rescues the Hebrew books and artifacts, hoping some day they will tell their story. The collection of the household pieces now takes on a new purpose, beyond her love of furniture of the Grunderzeit era. She hopes to save the memories of a nation as it falls to madness. After the defeat of Hitler, she then stands alone as a women before unwilling bureaucrats to plead for the right to keep her collection and build a museum.

For von Mahlsdorf, the freedom to express one's gender is as fundamental as the right of free speech and religion. Identifying with those who "live at the edge of society" she becomes active in the gay community. Behind the Berlin wall, the city officials close the gay clubs one by one. Amidst harassment and surveillance, her lesbian friends organize to outwit the authorities to keep their community together. One of the rooms in her museum becomes an underground club where friends can dance to music played on antique phonographs.

This is the story of a heroic person working often alone, with no more protection then her apron. As her home is bombed, she scavenges for artifacts so the crafts of her people will not be buried in the rubble. Transgendered or not, she is a heroine not unlike others in history. Her story is inspiring for the transgendered today who work to undo prejudice and ignorance. Would we who enjoy many freedoms also thrust our hands into the rubble to save the symbols of our worth?

(Cally Nichols is a *Transgender Tapestry* contributing editor.)



On Becoming Male

Information for the Female-to-Male Crossdresser and Transsexual by Lou Sullivan (Ingersoll Gender Center)
Reviewed by Bet Power

Now over ten years old, this booklet is still the best handbook available anywhere in the world for the female-to-male transgendered, our partners, caregivers, families, and friends. I first received it in 1986 through the mail directly from Louis Graydon Sullivan, whose blue-covered, self-published 1985 edition was considerably thinner than the Ingersoll Center edition currently available. Mr. Sullivan was the planet's first "out" female-to-gay male post-op transsexual. Lou had sent the original version to me at the New Mexandria Lesbian Library—now part of the Sexual Minorities Archives. Little did he know that the archive's curator who opened the mail and received his booklet was also an FTM (Flammable TransMan) just waiting for a spark! And spark this booklet was, and still is!

For me, it was like the Lesbian experience of reading *The Well of Loneliness,* by Radclyffe Hall, for the first time. It was a huge connection to self all at once; an enormous recognition that there were others out there just like me, that I am not alone. Even as I reexamine Radclyffe Hall, aka John, in a new historical light and believe that Radclyffe was transgendered more precisely, rather than Lesbian, I know that *The Well of Loneliness* did for many Lesbians what *Information for the Female-to-Male Crossdresser and Transsexual* did for many transmen. I devoured Lou's book in two hours, and quickly bought myself a plane ticket to San Francisco to meet him. It was the start of a pivotal, unforgettable friendship.

In its current edition, *Information,* contains just about everything a transguy always wanted and needed to know. There is historical narrative about, and photos of, "passing women," mascu-

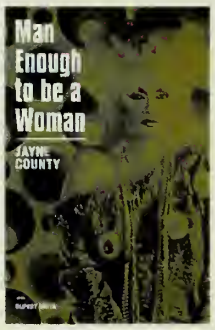
line females, and female-to-male crossdressers and transsexuals through time. There is one of the first-ever articulations of the difference between sexual identity and gender role preference. There are groundbreaking distinctions made between crossdressers and transsexuals. The really handy stuff is in chapters on how to pass and sex reassignment; clothing, face, shoe sizes, haircuts, body language, voice, breast binding, packing, and using the men's room, are all covered. So are hormone therapies, chest surgeries, and genitoplasty and phalloplasty (it would be good if someone updated this section to include recent advances in microsurgery).

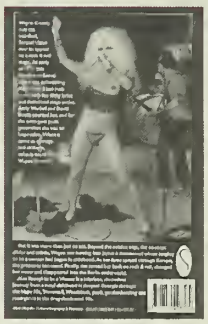
All topics are accompanied by illustrations or photos. There are chapters for families and friends of F2Ms as well as chapters on leaving the Lesbian world, being female-to-gay male, and parenting children. The whole thing wraps up with contacts and referral lists, a bibliography, and an appendix on F2Ms in films.

Incredible! What a lot of vital information packed into this short 123-page book. Just like Lou: a short gay transman who died of AIDS in 1991. The father of the female-to-male transgendered community, Mr. Sullivan packed a hell of a lot of living and giving into his 39 amazing years. Check out the power of this landmark book.

(Bet Power is the curator of the Sexual Minorities Archives and coordinator of the East Coast Female-to-Male Group in Northampton MA.)

Transgender Rock and Roller





Man Enough to Be a Woman by Jayne County with Rupert Smith (Serpent's Tail)
Reviewed by Marisa Richmond

Jayne County grew up in a small town in rural north Georgia and had to overcome an environment that was intolerant of Blacks, Catholics, Pagans, Gays, and, of course, rock and roll. She moved to Atlanta in 1964 and quickly fell into the drag scene there. She moved to New York in 1968 and also became involved in that city's underground community. She adopted the stage name "Wayne County" in early 1970, to honor the Michigan home of Iggy Pop and the Stooges. Shortly thereafter, she became the lead singer of a rock band called The Electric Chairs. The band recorded three Studio albums during the decade before breaking up in late 1979 at the very time that Jayne adopted her current name. She does drop a lot of names of famous people who were members of, or attracted to, the underground scene during that time. She even describes her one brief meeting with the late John Lennon in November 1974. Later, during the 1980s, County moved first to Berlin, and then to London.

While all of her experiences are uniquely her own, her successful efforts to move beyond her intolerant upbringing is not unlike the struggles that many transgendered people face. The best aspect of the book, however, is the excellent insight she offers into part of the history of the gender community in four cities. One of the biggest problems we have is documenting and recording our history, and County's autobiography is very useful in achieving that goal. You don't have to be a fan of rock 'n' roll (although it does help) to appreciate the growth and maturation process of Ms. County. The lessons she provides are important regardless of your musical tastes.

(Marisa Richmond is one of the leading forces behind the Nashville support group, Tennessee Vals.)

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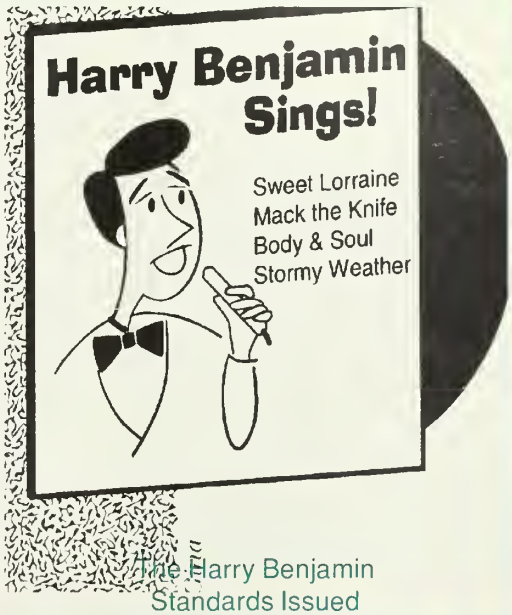
Not So Great Moments In TG History

1960 Virginia Prince Founds the Heels And Hose Club

Gina Ipolito



The Harry Benjamin Standards Issued

and

1987 Merissa Lynn Founds the International Foundation for Gender Education

Jean Marie Stine

1995 First TG Lobby Day

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which includes significant others, children, political rallies, conferences, surgeries, the famous (Steve Dain *from What Sex Am I?*) and the not-so-famous, seeks to "de-freakify" the gender community by presenting us as people with lives, families, and relationships.

Cameron's slides, narrated by James Green, were more deeply personal, presenting a series of F2Ms along with spoken text by the subjects themselves, including self-portraits by Cameron. The show, which presented starkly beautiful black-and-white photos along with the subjects' thoughts on their bodies and transitions, had a powerful effect on the audience, as, picking up where Cromwell's presentation left off, it continued to reclaim our

Myles a fellow participant at this year's conference.
Photo: By Mykael Hawley

community's history by making its own history right then and there. Too often, F2Ms are made to feel ashamed or somehow lacking, but Cameron's work presented images of us as not just "as good" as anyone else, but as men with something great and unique to offer.

Following the slide shows was a fashion show. Hosted by a drag queen, it included F2Ms in leather, latex, '70s wear, a posing pouch (worn by a, very impressive bodybuilder), evening wear, and various costumes. I also participated in this part of the programming. Several months before the conference I had jokingly told some of the organizers I would model a Speedo bathing suit as well as the preppy look for the fashion show. Well, they took me up on it, and it was a lot of fun. I've always wanted to be a male model, although I'm still waiting to hear from GQ...

The next day was devoted to workshops, panels, and rap sessions held at Seattle Community College. Topics included Coming Out, Sexuality, Young Men's Rap, Tricks of the Trade, Queer/Straight Issues, Fighting Racism, Defining F2M, Legal Issues, Queer Rap, Political Activism, Living Long Term, Finding a Partner, and various programming devoted to significant others, including Partner and Relationship Issues, Gay Male Partner Issues, and a Rap Session.

The first workshop I attended was the Sexuality Panel, presented by Dan, Michael H., Sky, and Ben. It was open to F2Ms only and covered such topics as safe sex, gender identity and sexual orientation, coping with body issues, dealing with phallocentricity, satisfying partners, and sex gear. Highlights included a discussion of rejecting society's dictums of what makes the man and learning to enjoy and take pride in our bodies the way they are, as well as a discussion of safer sex practices and the need to be careful regardless of what you do and who you do it with.

Next, I attended the Tricks of the Trade workshop, which I also helped to facilitate along with Ken and David. Here, using numerous visual

Jordan, a fellow participant, presenter and fashion model at this year's conference.
Photo: By Mykael Hawley

aids, we discussed binding options, packing devices, urinary devices, and hair and wardrobe suggestions, all designed to enhance passing and help new men to look and feel their best. Topics included discussions of which binding options offered the best combination of effectiveness and comfort, which urinary devices worked best and were easiest to carry, and how choosing the right clothes can greatly help one's body shape to appear more masculine.

After lunch I attended the Queer Rap session, facilitated by Matt and Erik. A freeform discussion of the unique issues facing those of us who identify as gay or bisexual men, it covered such topics as how to "cruise" men as a man, how to come out to a potential partner, and how to feel attractive and confident while trying to date in the most notoriously phallocentric sector of our society. This last topic brought up an especially important discussion. We noted how, for years there have been images celebrating M2Fs in media and the personals (some admittedly fetishistic, but others genuine in their appreciation of TS women), but no comparable images of F2Ms. All that

Dr. Pierre Brassard, MD and Mrs. Brassard.
Dr. Brassard presented techniques on the upper and lower surgery, from the Menard Clinic in Montreal, Quebec, Canada
Photo By Mykael Hawley

is now beginning to change as photographers like as Loren Cameron and Beryl Dean Katula put positive images in art and the media, and individual F2Ms begin to take pride in themselves as men with something special to offer. And others are noticing. Several of the participants in the discussion were genetic gay men who attended not just because they found F2Ms acceptable as partners, but because they found us especially attractive.

The last panel I attended was Living Long Term, presented by Jason Cromwell, M., Dan, and Jude Patton.

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ily that he is in the femme role. This causes her to worry that when he is with her sexually he is much more concerned about his femme experience than he is about making love to her. A rivalry and competition develops, somewhat as though he had a mistress. She wants to know how she compares with this woman he has created, with whom he seems to be completely enamored. What does it mean to him to have sex with her?

If she is really a heterosexually-driven woman who is attracted to his masculinity, and he is interested in having femme ideation and femme fantasy, the relationship is at an impasse, no matter how much they love each other. If the two people are mature enough, sometimes they resolve the problem by finding ways to be with each other that are somewhat satisfying; but it is never a truly passionate match.

You cannot tell the woman, "Well, just change your idea of what's desirable." Our sexual desires are set very early in our lives. They are some of the strongest conditioning we have, and it is difficult, often impossible, to change them.

During the consciousness-raising time of the women's movement, many heterosexual women did decide that their emotional experiences with women were so satisfying that they reconditioned themselves to be with women sexually. But many of them, if the truth be told, were still more erotically aroused by being with men. Some discovered that they were, indeed, bisexual. In a TG relationship with a partner, the bisexual woman can often be responsive to him in ways that the strongly heterosexual woman finds difficult.

Older, committed couples are often able to make accommodations because their sex drive is not as strong as it was when they were in their twenties and thirties. They can still be physically affectionate, still have some kind of sex. Perhaps she can allow the man to fantasize whatever he wants, as long as he doesn't talk about it and isn't overt about it, so that she can have her own fantasies. Sometimes the sexual part of their relationship simply evaporates. If sex was never very important, and if it has become less important at this point in their marriage, then doing without it may not be disturbing. But if the couple is relatively young, with a high sex drive, making adjustments is quite a challenge.

Other problems such couples face have to do with different levels of comfort with risk-taking. The man, for instance, may want to try some new "feminization"—shaving legs, growing nails, or piercing ears—before the woman is ready to accept or deal with those changes. If he goes ahead impulsively and acts on his feelings without consulting her, it's another betrayal. She wants to know, "Why didn't you talk with me about this? Why didn't you tell me?" His response is usually, "I was afraid you would say no. Then I would feel guilty." Of course, he ends up feeling guilty anyway.

One of the counselor's jobs is to help these two people to be willing to take the risks involved in honest communicating. They need to get to a point where they can talk about anything, where they don't deny or condemn each other's feelings. If they decide they are in the relationship for the long haul and don't want to break their commitment to each other, they reach the best compromise they can on what appear to be irreconcilable differences.

When I am working with a couple on improving their communication skills, I am teaching them to be totally present for each other without interruptions and with an attitude of respect.

Many therapists teach clients "active listening." This way they learn to hear their own and each other's apparent contradictions or unresolved problems. They feed back what they are hearing from their partners before responding, and then go on to discuss what kind of process they can use to become allies so that they can get through some of these problems and, together, produce solutions. Therapists often guide them into making written agreements that can be reviewed later.

Whether in or out of therapy, couples should set aside time on a regular basis to do the following exercise which I call Ten Steps to Working it Out:

1. Make uninterrupted time for each other.

2. Sit facing each other, making eye contact.

3. Take turns speaking of your own feelings about the gender issue: your fears, curiosity, resentments, excitement.

4 . Before you respond to what your partner has expressed, repeat back what you understand until he or she is satisfied and feels understood.

5 . Make a list of apparent contradictions or unresolved problems.

6. Take each item on the list in turn and, as allies, try to find a solution which both of you can live with. Include what you, yourself, can do to help bring about a good solution.

7. Write down each agreement and establish a time for evaluating how it is or isn't being carried out, as well as when it will be up for review.

8. Plan for expanding your knowledge base through reading and meeting others who have dealt with similar issues.

9. Plan pleasurable times together outside of gender activities.

10. At the end of each communication session, look at your partner and find a way to express affection.

Active listening is one of the most useful tools for couples to include in their communication. Here's a sample dialogue:

She: "I feel sexually turned off by your shaved legs and long fingernails. I don't want to be touched by you under those conditions."

He (using active listening): "When you see or feel my nails or shaved legs, it's a turn-off and you don't want to have sex with me."

She: "That's right."

He: "So the problem is, how can we have a satisfactory sex life if I want to keep my legs shaved and my nails on the long side?"

She: "We probably need to talk more about what turns each of us on and how or whether we can meet those conditions for each other."

He: "Here's one thing I could do. Instead of shaving all the time, I could shave for special events where I want to wear dresses in public and look good. That's maybe four or five times a year. The rest of the time I could let the hair on my legs grow back."

She: "That means there has to be enough time between any two of these events. I guess I could make an exception about shaving every once in a while if it were really inconvenient for you, but I might not be that turned on. I really can't stand the fingernails, though."

He: "If you feel that strongly about fingernails, I can keep my own nails trimmed and wear false nails for special events. If I have a very strong urge to have my own nails longer every once in a while, I could discuss it with you and maybe we could plan it into the schedule."

She: "That would be O.K. with me, provided that during that time you don't expect me to be sexually responsive. You know, what really turns me on is your man-ness, your being assertive during lovemaking, having your male sex characteristics intact, treating me as desirable and the object of your romantic interest. It's hard to

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Thanks to such female-to-male transsexual pioneers as James Green, director of F2M International, many like myself have adopted the acronym "FTM" or "F2M" to describe ourselves—and we say it proudly. Speaking spiritedly of ourselves to ourselves, and to others like us, may be the most important first step toward a "coming out" of F2Ms.

Only within the last couple of years has the F2M community raised its voice enough to be heard. We are starting to get involved in our communities, taking on activist and educator roles. The summer of 1995 saw FTM International put together the first ever F2M conference. Over three-hundred-fifty F2Ms converged in San Francisco to hear from medical professionals, therapists and law experts. But the real motivation for the gathering was the desire to be with their own kind to finally, really know that they weren't alone.

The success of this conference points the way toward the kinds of things we can keep doing as a community to strengthen our bond with each other. There is truth to the old adage about "strength in numbers." Maybe the F2Ms who are speaking up today don't want to be silent anymore because they don't want to be alone anymore.

"I think we have been more visible and vocal because it is time to be," James Green suggests. "We have hidden ourselves away for too long. We seem to have realized that we can no longer allow transsexualism to be defined as only 'men who want to be women.'"

In retrospect, most F2Ms spend their lives in solitude. The medical profession's labeling transsexualism as an illness (gender dysphoria) discourages them from speaking out about it to others. Kate Bornstein believes that TSs also distance themselves from each other because they "threaten the hell out of one another."

Bornstein feels that because we TSs have learned to keep silent and lived in so much silence for so much of our lives, we all construct our own private concepts of gender and what our place in the world is. "We bring our very personal explanations for our existence into contact with other transsexuals who have been spending their lives constructing their own reasons for existence," she observes. "If, when we meet, our world views differ radically enough, we wind up threatening each other's basic understanding of the world—we threaten each other. So, we'd rather not meet, we'd rather not talk."

Ironically, the medical community is learning more about us because they are listening. In addition, many psychotherapists now offer encouragement and advice to transsexuals and their families. We do have different medical needs than do M2Fs. This needs to be addressed. But, we are no longer being defined or treated as being mentally ill.

Furthermore, at the 1996 IFGE Conference in Minneapolis, I discovered that F2Ms are finally starting to sit down and talk to each other. In a tableless conference room consisting of a full circle of chairs, James Green, Jason Cromwell, myself and two other F2Ms excitedly compared notes for at least two hours. And that was just one of the F2M gatherings there.

The youngest of our small but talkative group asked sincere questions of those who have been down the long road. We answered candidly and honestly, and he listened earnestly. Earlier in the day, he had been witnessed proudly showing off his "new" chest to a round of applause in the most popular gathering place in the lobby.

F2Ms are becoming more active than at any other time in history, according to Green. "I don't know the 'true' underlying cause for the rise in F2M visibility—and I still do not think we are anywhere near as visible as we ultimately will be—but what has made me want to be more visible is the desire to eradicate the fear and shame that so many of us live with every day. Also, I'm sick and tired of the old cliché that transsexuals simply reinforce gender stereotypes because they try so hard to live up to them. I think we have an opportunity to break down those stereotypes, but only if we are visible and acknowledge that we are not less-than-men, but in fact men and more!"

Green attributes F2M inactivity and invisibility to our being "scattered" all around the globe, "well-assimilated in big cities and small towns, or ensconced in gay and lesbian communities, but we have no real community of our own."

According to Green, it isn't that F2Ms don't communicate—we do have a strong network of communication through the Internet, support groups and ***the FTM Newsletter,*** for example. But, unlike other minority groups, the transgender community as a whole doesn't really have its own "neighborhood." In his keynote address for the 1995 FTM conference, Green said that the F2M community is void of blocks that house bookstores and eateries that cater to and/or are staffed by "transpeople."

Green recognized that there are little "beehives of transness" in a few major US cities and abroad and F2M individuals who take upon themselves the role of educator and activist. But most of the activism and visibility, he pointed out, is stilled carried by M2F transgendered and transsexual people.

So how do F2Ms build a community? A good start is to emulate the founder of F2M International, Louis Graydon Sullivan. Disgruntled with the lack of information about F2M TSs, about ten years ago Sullivan set out to create a source of information for them. On his own, he researched what he could find and produced a pamphlet called *Information for the Female-To-Male Cross Dresser and Transsexual.*

Sullivan advertised the pamphlets in gender publications. With every F2M who contacted him for a pamphlet, he added one more name to a mailing list. The list grew into a larger and larger group of F2Ms who could talk and exchange information freely. In his home area of San Francisco, Sullivan also staged a monthly meeting for a handful of F2Ms.

As his contacts grew, Sullivan started holding regular support group meetings in 1986. By 1987, he was sending out summaries of the meetings that included facts of interest about historical F2Ms and tips on passing. This one page of 81/2 x 11 piece of white paper was the birth of the *FTM Newsletter.*

James Green also credits Sullivan with educating the medical and psychological profession about TS. Sullivan, Green feels, was a major force in triggering early professional discussions regarding gender and sexual orientation. "Lou was aggressively taking on the psychological and medical establishment," Green states. "He corresponded and arranged meetings with some of the leading researchers and practitioners in the country, and slowly began to chip away at the prevailing paradigm of gender and sexual orientation. He was single-handedly responsible for the professional community's current acknowledgment that there is a difference between sexual orientation and gender identity. I predict that this view of gender and sex will ultimately have a profound effect on mainstream social thought in the twenty-first century."

It's people like Lou and James and the other "brave" F2Ms who use their fears—whether it be a fear of change, or a fear of isolation, attention, each other or a fear of loss—to rise and shout "that's enough!" Isolation follows fear, and fear begets invisibility. And as James points out, "...invisibility can breed contempt because invisibility is one of the conditions that contributes to ignorance."

About a month ago, via the Internet, I read an editorial in the ***Providence-Journal*** that lambasted a TS woman—who was going through a divorce trial—for being TS and for accepting government financial assistance to help pay for her surgery. Feeling that the author needed an "education" I sat down and wrote a response. I'm no scholar, but I do know about TS. I am one. Who better to open the eyes of the world to us, than us. The editor published my response, stating that I had made some good points and that he had learned something. And if the columnist learned something, too, then that may have been at least two people that I had a positive effect on.

I would never have talked to anyone outside my family or friends about

transsexualism. But, that changed last year, and no one was as surprised as I to find myself sitting on a panel discussing the trials, tribulations, myths and realities of being transgendered with medical students at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minnesota. Since then, through the sponsorship of the University of Minnesota, I have been a part of numerous discussions involving students, professionals from the medical, insurance and social work communities, gays, lesbians and heterosexual families. I have seen that—more often than not—after people have listened to me and then have a chance to ask me questions, a light goes on in their heads. Although they can't ever fully understand what we feel or go through, they at least have decided that we deserve and need toleration by society, and help from the medical profession.

The point is that I am now a true believer that communication is the key to a healthy, stable, and respectable community. I have also found that the more I talked, the better I felt about myself. Not everyone can be as public as James or myself, or others and that's okay. Everyone has to deal with their coming out individually.

However, if we are to be a strong community, when we read a discriminating article about transgender people, we should write a letter and send it. If we want basic human rights, we have to go to the capitals of our states and to Washington and fight for them. We need to write letters to our congress persons and representatives. When a conference or other special event is catering to F2Ms, we should make a sincere effort to attend. At the very least, we need to be visible to each other.

These inspirational words of James Green keep me in an active role in the F2M community, of which I can no longer imagine myself not being a part. "I am willing to take on the label of transgender," Green said, "because I believe it will ultimately help bring about greater understanding between people so the world can be a safer place for all of us. I hope that other people will look inside themselves and recognize their own transgendered qualities, stop being afraid of being associated with other queer people, and own their own humanity. I believe this is evolution of consciousness, and it starts with each of us."

The emergence of other F2Ms—such as San Francisco police sergeant Stephan Thorne, activist/educator Jason Cromwell, artist/photographer Loren Cameron, performer David Harrison and TOPS founder Tonye Barreto-Neto—is helping to pave the way for others to be visible and to feel safer in being visible. And the list keeps growing. But, the F2M community is not just a handful of people or a few voices. More voices need to be heard; there can never be enough. A few cannot be the F2M community. A few cannot be responsible for us all.

"I am not the F2M community," Green says adamantly. "There is no F2M community. We are trying to create one just by naming it. It may exist someday; it does not exist now. And it won't exist until we have a chance to come together and learn to get beyond our personal issues. Not only must we have the opportunity to gather, but we must also allow ourselves to unite. So where is our community? Most of it is still in hibernation, like a sleeping giant—a frightened sleeping giant."

Once we awaken, this trend of F2Ms being more visible can only broaden the criteria for transpeople. Commented Green, "I think more people from the lesbian and gay and even bi communities will come to identify with the label, not only because they like to be pushing the envelope, but also because they will come to see how inclusive it is. In my mind, the ultimate goal of the transgender movement (as it were) is to get beyond identity politics, get beyond the labels, and teach people that they can accept the diversity in themselves, as well as in others, as well as among each other. I want EVERYone to see that masculinity and femininity are not governed by genitalia, that maleness and femaleness should not be used to oppress people, that we should ALL be free to be who we are."

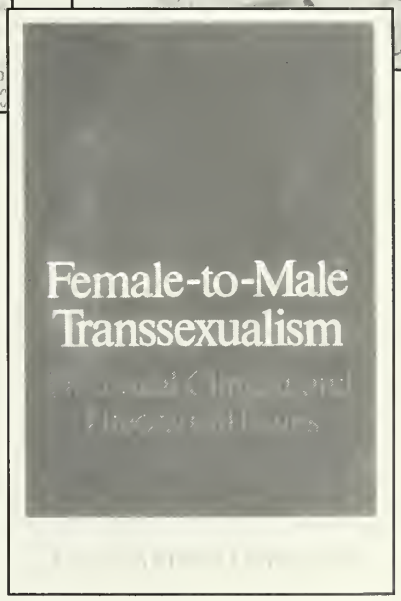
Last March, as I sat in a hotel room in Norfolk, Virginia recovering from genital surgery, I cringed from the discomfort but reveled in what was the final stage of my surgical transition into "wholeness." As I enjoyed my victory, I couldn't help but marvel at medical advancements—and we ain't seen nothin' yet. I also thought about those "women who passed as men" in the past and how their metamorphosis was limited to dress and societal perception.

The "early" F2Ms were certainly emotionally stronger than the professionals of the time gave them credit for. Like their modern brothers, they were afraid, but true to themselves. However, they didn't have the doctors or therapists to talk to, or the activists to fight for their basic human rights as we do today. Unlike us today, they really only had themselves.

Yet they endured. It's quite humbling.

The most pressing issue F2Ms have is prejudice and discrimination. This causes F2Ms to lose friends, family, jobs, health, access to health care and legal rights. "We need better surgery and medical care," Green notes. "We need better treatment from employers and landlords. We need sensitive educational systems and more enlightened therapy centers that can facilitate our transitions (and our friends' and families' transitions with us) rather than being treated as objects, research subjects, or money machines."

Can it be done? Can F2Ms create a sound, respectable community? Our loudest and most intelligent voice today, James Green, believes that with some sweat we will one day be a community. "I think all this is possible, but it won't be easy to come by. We have a lot of education work ahead of us, a lot of creative work, a lot of inner work to do before we will carve out a place of dignity and safety in this culture, in this world."



The late twentieth century F2M community has a lot of outside political and social support from local and national gay, lesbian, bisexual and M2F groups and organizations. We are not alone. But we have to start taking responsibility for our community—not only for ourselves, but for the current generation of F2M kids, and the next, and the next and....

(R. Scott Gerdes is a staff writer for Focus Point, a Minneapolis gay/les/bi/trans newspaper, and a contributing editor for Transgender Tapestry.)

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do that when I think you really want to *be* me rather than make love to me."

He: "I understand that. Sometimes it is a conflict for me, but I think that if I have enough space to express the feminine side of me in other parts of my life, I can thoroughly enjoy being your husband in the bedroom

After completing an exchange on one issue, the couple might go back to the first step with other concerns. The basic idea is that, before a response is given, each person makes sure that they have heard the other to that person's satisfaction.

Any partner of a CD who sincerely cannot feel love, compassion, or attraction to her partner will learn she has two choices:

1. To work on herself and her own fears, resentment, feelings of inadequacy, and rigid beliefs.

2. To decide she doesn't have enough real caring for her partner to put in the work involved, and needs to start a new life elsewhere.

The choice she doesn't have is to change her partner to meet her expectations. Paradoxically, as soon as each partner decides to take responsibility for him or herself and his/her own feelings and problems, the other person and the relationship can change for the better.

Making the decision to separate is difficult, especially if children are involved. At least the couple can get to the point where they are looking realistically at the relationship and deciding whether it is worth the effort to stay together (essentially to create a new relationship), or whether they would be better off going their own ways. Sometimes, unfortunately, this decision has to be made unilaterally. One person simply does not want to stay in the relationship under certain conditions. The other partner wants the relationship to continue, but there are irreconcilable issues.

I have seen couples who thought they wouldn't be able to sustain their relationship and who surprised themselves and me by creating a stronger bond than they had before after therapy. Others, who seemed to be doing well with these issues, have sometimes moved to a place where it became apparent that one or the other or both were unwilling to continue.

This issue has a way of profoundly stirring up the unconscious. It is important to allow a lot of room for this complex process to unfold. It is a great opportunity for the partners, to make many discoveries, to find out all sorts of things about themselves about which they were not formerly aware. Beware of deciding too soon how it will come out. Just support each other in doing what feels right for you.

If the partners have been together for a while, have love and respect for themselves and each other, and have a good track record of being effective, collaborative problem-solvers, if they are both strongly committed to making it work, and the therapist can help them learn and can coach them in the skills they lack, there is a good chance their relationship will last and flourish.

Guidelines for Spouses of M2F Crossdressers

· If either person comes from a dysfunctional family (alcohol, any sort of abuse or neglect), the gender issue will stimulate old, unconscious angers and fears that must get dealt with in order for the current relationship to work.

· Crossdressing behavior is not the reason for a bad marriage; poor communication is.

· The crossdressing urge is nobody's fault.

· It is unknown at this time how and why the behavior exists. The feeling is not chosen, it is discovered.

· Crossdressing does not have to be addictive if well managed.

· Often, the less accepting the wife, the more compulsive the CD feels.

· In relationships that work best, each person takes responsibility for any issue that affects either one strongly, and the couple communicates fully about it without blame.

· There is no known "cure" for the behavior, although the less stress and more love there is in a CD's life, usually the less compulsion there is to crossdress and the less important it becomes to either one.

· Other issues that exist in the relationship, such as finances, child rearing, spending quality time together, etc., need to be dealt with separately from the crossdressing issue.

If everything is blamed on dressing, nothing will get solved.

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The preceding article is adapted from Neila Miller's Counseling in Genderland (available through the IFGE bookstore).

(Niela Miller, MA is a licensed social worker and mental health counselor who has worked with members of the TG community for years. She is in private practice in the Boston area and is currently offering training and supervision to counselors working with TG clients.)

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keeping, of observation and therapy, both psychologic and medical—Dr. Harry Benjamin amassed a phenomenal amount of information that guided the colleagues of his day, and now the professionals of this age. He wrote the very famous *Transsexual Phenomenon* which not only gave great insight into the diagnosis and management of the transgendered person, but admonished and pleaded with physicians to be considerate of the person so burdened and conflicted as to throw away a lifetime of family, friends and material gain—to be what their minds told them they were. He developed the Sex Orientation Scale—a table which helps to classify individuals in a descriptive manner. While it is not completely accurate, it is quite helpful in placing individuals in the position they most probably belong for diagnostic purposes, based on symptoms and signs.

He lectured and taught actively into his eighties until his strength failed him. In his 90s he consulted with and advised countless care givers who sought his help in management of patients and clients. He was world famous, but content to live with his wife of over 60 years, Gretchen, in a small apartment in New York City. He was plagued by the fear that he had not done enough, and that what he had done would be forgotten. All of his life, Dr. Benjamin lived with courtesy, courage and compassion as his guidelines. He passed away in his sleep on a Sunday morning at 101 years of age.

For our community he was a star in the heavens, and he continues to shine brightly through the work of the association that bears his name.

—

(Sheila Kirk, MD, currently serves as director of IFGE's Office of Medical Liaison and Research. She is a member of the HBIGDA, the author of numerous books on the subject of transgender health care and is Board Certified in Obstetrics and Gynecology.)

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These combined questions about the long-term effects of hormone therapy with a discussion of some of the emotional and practical aspects of having lived as a man for many years. Then, when the conference broke up for the day, many of us went out to enjoy the many fine bars and restaurants in Seattle.

Sunday's activities (again held at Seattle Community College) were mostly presentations and discussions of medical issues, although it also included panels on the Spectrum of F2M Expression and Transitioning after 40, as well as an all-day video room featuring various tapes relevant to the F2M experience. After opening announcements by Dr. Jason Cromwell, the audience heard from therapist Sandra Fosshage, general practitioner Peter Shalit, endocrinologist Frances E. Broyles, and surgeons Pierre Brossard, who spoke about chest reconstruction, and Toby R. Meltzer, who discussed genital reconstruction options.

That night many of us went to the Beyond the Edge Cafe to view work by F2M artists, including photographer Beryl Dean Katula, whose portraits of F2M subjects (juxtaposed with "before" photos) and surgeries spoke eloquently of the power of physical transformation as did the work of artist Michael Kirk, whose series of collages documented his own transition.

Like last year's conference, however, the Seattle F2M conference was about far more than the sum of its panels, workshops, and presentations. It represented nothing less than our growth and maturation as a community. F2Ms, once so isolated and invisible that many transitioned without ever meeting others like themselves, are coming together in ever greater numbers and rejecting the idea that they must somehow consider themselves imitations of genetic men. Once expected by doctors and society to conform to some monolithic notion of what transsexual men were supposed to be, we are discovering that there is infinite variety among us, with men of every conceivable ethnic, cultural, and sexual stripe. Ignoring those would tell us what "real" men are, and refusing to be ashamed, we are defining ourselves, and in so doing becoming a people with our own history, rites, heroes, and traditions.

Many thanks to the Seattle and Portland guys for doing such a great job! The Boston guys look forward to seeing everyone at next year's conference.

—

(Andy Gavin is a member of the Waltham, Massachusetts F2M support group, the Officer's Club. He can be reached care of this magazine or via e-mail at gavin@world.std.com.)

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My method for transitioning I term "Informed Decision Making." In this, the client makes their own decision to go down which road and how far upon being given the information and insight needed to do so. I find many gender folk focus on their dress and body at first, not realizing that the whole persona changes during successful transitioning. This is why physical transitioning (clothes, makeup, hormones, surgery) is only a minor part of the whole transition process. Values, lifelong hobbies, musical tastes, temperament, and goals, can and often do change. The new self which emerges from under the male personality often grows into a person no closer to the male persona than a sister. Naturally, it is often a rebirth in slow motion (it takes one to two years).

Also, unlike psychotherapy, transitioning need not be weekly. In fact, very few of my clients receive weekly sessions after the first few months. Why? Because it is a learning and *unlearning* procedure much like learning a new language, algebra, a musical instrument or a better golf swing. After the first few "lessons," all you need be is consistent. Of course, the more intensive the effort, the quicker one will reach one's goal. But counseling more than once a week doesn't seem to help, unless there is more than one problem being worked on, such as transitioning *plus* marriage problems.

For example, let's say Mary (who was Bob) has recently come to accept she is transgendered, and has a wife, Betty, who she cares for, and four children ages four, seven, nine and twelve. Mary is a successful engineer at a large company making a very good wage. Her wife does not work outside the home.

Mary has several problems to solve. What does "transgendered" mean to her? How does she now relate to her wife who is fearful and upset? How, when and what to tell the children? What should she do about work, friends, family, etc.?

The first problem is part of transitioning and by far the most important. As Mary answers, "What does being transgendered mean to me?" the solution to her other questions will become clearer and clearer. But at some point, as Mary gets to know and accept herself more, she and Betty will probably benefit from couple/marriage counseling as there are many issues *between* them they need to resolve.

Because a person's core personality often changes greatly during transition, making too many decisions too soon is a mistake. ***At the beginning of transition, Bob's values, goals and baggage (personal responsibilities, etc.) are still in charge. At this stage Mary is only a gleam in Bob's eye.*** It takes time to tear down the walls and fill in the gaps. As Mary is learning and growing, Betty needs to be brought along too, at least as far as she is willing or capable of going. Remember, this is a very trying time for the spouse as well as for the transgendered person. The partner's whole life is being turned upside down and she has no control over it. The partner often feels betrayed, angry and frustrated. Betty can even see Mary as her enemy, her competition. But, the more and the sooner a knowing, experienced professional is brought into the picture, the easier it is for both parties, and the better the outcome for everyone. Betty's *willing* cooperation is needed for best dealing with the children, family and future living arrangements.

With Betty brought into the process, as Mary's transformation continues, they can decide as a couple what their relationship and living conditions will be. Not always happily, but truthfully, with everyone's needs acknowledged and discussed.

If Mary realizes she must transition fully into a female body and role, they are now positioned to deal with this together, including the telling of children, family and friends. Often a completely new job description is called for upon transition, sometimes because of the difference in Bob's and Mary's personality and values, and at other times because a woman is not as accepted or respected in the old employment. And, of course, sometimes the prejudice of the employer leads to a loss of job. But, I have found that prejudice is the *least* common reason for job change if the transition is done correctly on all levels, emotional and psychological as well as physical. In fact, over the last few years, I have experienced very few negative reactions from employers, family and friends towards my transitioning gender clients. So few that I have begun to feel that most negative reactions stem from gender folks not being given good help during transition rather than the transition itself. The exceptions to this rule are often spouses and best friends, because in both cases the very basis of the relationship is often threatened by transitioning.

There is a global need for all gender folk, whether CD, TV, TS or TG to transition, although the road taken and the distance traveled may vary greatly from individual to individual. Transitioning is much more than a physical/superficial journey. And transitioning in itself is *not* psychotherapy, but a rebirth of an individual long buried under the layers of society's imposed expectations. Like all births, it can be long, difficult, very painful and full of doubts at times. But who can deny the joy and expectation of a new life, a new beginning, even if the death of the old is needed to give room for the birth of the new?

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Dr. Carl Bushong is a psychotherapist who has appeared numerous times on television and radio discussing the subjects of transsexualism and gender identity, and has written extensively on the subject. He provides the introduction in the Nu-Woman video, The Operation: Sex Re-Assignment Surgery by Eugene Schrang, M.D. Dr. Bushong currently practices psychotherapy, specializing in transgender issues, at Tampa Stress Center, PO Box 273107, Tampa, Florida 33688; Telephone: (813)884-7835.

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People frequently feel that the tremendous pain they are suffering will never end. Being reassured that despondent feelings do resolve and that positive change is possible is an important part of treatment. It is also helpful for people to find out that they are not alone, and that there are numerous instances of successful treatment. Because depression exacerbates social isolation, peer support or group therapy can provide individuals with positive social contacts and an opportunity to hear how others combat depression.

It should be noted that in providing depression treatment to TGs there exist several dynamics which frequently prevent persons from seeking help. As previously mentioned, TGs routinely have been characterized as mentally disordered because their crossdressing and gender identity issues seem unusual to non-TGs. Regrettably, such attitudes still exist today within the medical and mental health professions, particularly in locations that do not have access to up-to-date professional literature on gender identity issues. Both care providers and TGs should understand that having a TG identity or individual crossdressing needs does not cause depression; rather it is caused by experiencing seemingly unresolvable social and circumstantial pressures. Learning effective coping skills which concurrently resolve these pressures while preserving a person's gender identification is the correct approach in these situations.

Transgender persons also avoid treatment for depression because it is widely believed that in order for treatment to be effective, both gender identity and depression issues must be addressed at the same time. This is not always the case. In some situations it is possible to provide symptom relief without having to immediately deal with gender identity issues. Individuals may seek support for their depression, stressing that they are not interested in discussing gender identity issues until they feel safe doing so, if it should it become necessary. Those who feel that disclosing their gender issues may prove compromising or be met with negativity, may choose not to. Rather, they can utilize the break from emotional anguish which is available through traditional depressive-symptom relief to seek gender-specialized resources for their crossdressing or gender identity issues.

Having two care providers, one who dispenses depression treatment and the other who offers gender-specialized support is useful in many circumstances. This is particularly so when a TG does not yet have a sufficient level of communication skills and knowledge about gender identity issues to disclose to a helping professional unfamiliar with gender identity issues.

The interpersonal difficulties and social hostilities which TGs experience can play a large role in causing or aggravating depression. This is particularly true for individuals who are coming to terms with gender issues without the assistance or awareness of gender specialized resources. "Coming-out," disclosure concerns, balancing transition costs, social isolation, family rejection, and being single or unable to find acceptance from a significant other, are some of the recognizable sources of depression in TGs. Less frequently acknowledged contributors to depression include: unresolved gender identity conflicts in pre and post-operative persons, pre- and post-surgical emotional adjustment, poor body image and low self-esteem.

Hormones may also play a role in triggering depression. Because hormones are powerful chemicals, an increase or decrease in dosage can bring on changes in mood. TGs and their physicians need to recognize that routine laboratory testing of blood-based hormone levels helps ensure that dosages are effective, yet not so high as to create debilitating mood swings or dangerous medical complications. Gradual changes in hormone dosage are a sensible precaution that provide an opportunity for physical and emotional adjustment. Also, individuals who are initiating hormone administration frequently are poorly prepared for the emotional changes that go with it. These persons are encouraged to adjust their thinking and seek support for their needs much as women do during menopause. This is particularly so for TG women who choose to cycle their hormones so as to mimic the biological rhythms genetic women experience.

Lastly, doctors and therapists need to be aware that a lack of access to hormones also produces high rates of depression, emotional mood swings, and occasional suicidal feelings. This is particularly so when public institutions and medical or mental health providers deny TGs access to hormones because it is against policy, or staff are unfamiliar with gender identity issues. TGs should not be denied access to hormones or cut off from pre-existing prescriptions solely because a careprovider is either not interested in or unfamiliar with supporting TGs. Transgender hormone administration is a routine medical procedure, and TGs are no less entitled to informed medical care than other patients.

TGs can suffer depression caused by situations or disorders that are in no way related to gender issues. TGs need to recognize this, and research treatment options before things reach a crisis. It is senseless for individuals to suffer from depression when successful treatment options exist. In many circumstances severe and long-term depression can be halted with early intervention.

If you are a TG suffering from depression, start searching for help now, and do not give up until you find it. Most gender-specializing care providers are familiar with treatment and available resources. If you do not have a gender specialist in your area, traditional mental health counseling and psychiatric resources are listed in the "community section" of your local telephone directory. Lastly, if you would like to read more about combating depression, most bookstores and libraries have numerous professional and self-help titles available. One I recommend is *The Depression Workbook*, by Mary Copeland, M.S. (New Harbinger Press).

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(Gianna E. Israel is a gender-specializing counselor who in private practice provides individual and relationship counseling, nationwide telephone consultation, evaluations, and referrals. She is also a founding AEGIS board member and an HBIGDA member. Ms. Israel may be contacted at (415) 558-8058, by writing P.O. Box 424447, San Francisco, CA 94142 or by e-mail at Jamaica@wco.com.)

TRANSGENDER RESEARCH

TED J. CLEMENT, MA

Social science and psychological research into transgender issues have been on the increase in recent years. Currently, there is no accurate method available to track *all* TG research at all times. IFGE, in pursuit of social aid to the transgendered community, seeks a more accurate handle on the numbers and varieties of students and professionals who are currently engaged in trans-research of one sort or another. Below is a short list of ongoing TG research and a plea for notification of projects unknown to us as well as a request for notification at the outset of future work.

Be it literature, longitudinal, cross-cultural, experimental, observational, or any other sort of research, we at ***Transgender Tapestry*** would like to know about it. The more we know about the research, the more we can help disseminate that information, the more transgendered responses become available for participation, and the more accurate and helpful the research. Please contact this department and inform us of any TG research not covered below. We are aware of a few projects underway now, but we are certain that there are many, many more that we have not been informed about.

We want information from any of three areas in this regard: If you are conducting research that directly or indirectly is linked to the transgendered community; if you are currently involved as a participant in research that is directly or indirectly related to the TG community; or if you are aware (by other means) of research underway directed toward some aspect of the TG community.

Please send the name and contact information (address, telephone number, e-mail address)for the research to either: Ted J. Clement, Research Editor, ***Transgender Tapestry***, 10400 Rio Hondo Parkway, El Monte, CA 91733-1354. E-Mail at tedclem@ix.netcom.com. Thus will allow us to offer an increasingly comprehensive, timely, and accurate list of endeavors underway that may benefit from TG participation and support.

Here is a list of ongoing research of which we are currently aware:

1. Dawn R. Banks; Transgender Expression in Males: D.R. Banks, c/o Dept. of Psychology, 406 Babbidge Road, U-20, U. Connecticut, Storrs, CT 06269-1020 -or- drbanks@connix.com
2. Sheila Kirk, M.D.; Post-operative MTF Transsexual: Dr. Sheila Kirk, c/o IFGE P.O. Box 229, Waltham, MA 02254-0229, or ifge@world.std.com (Kirk in the subject line)
3. William Turner, M.D.; Transsexualism and crossdressing inherited: Dr. Bill Turner, 1-800-448-1291 -or- 505-343-1291 -or- wjtmd@aol.com
4. Alice Webb, M.S.W; Female partners of FTMs: Alice Webb, P.O. Box 1718, Sonoma, CA 95476 or hbigda@aol.com
5. Joy Shaffer, M.D.; Brain scans and Transgender: Dr. Joy Shaffer, c/o Seahorse Medical Clinic, 1570 The Alameda, #215, San Jose, CA 95126 -or- seahorsemc@aol.com
6. Sunny Watson; Stages in a successful transsexual transition: Sunny Watson, c/o Fay Watson Foundation, P.O. Box 3267, Odessa, TX 79760 -or- 915-520-5644
7. Jan Eder, Psy.D.; Ongoing research in MTF and Transgender Issues: Dr. Jan Eder, 4545 Park Blvd., #207, San Diego, CA 92116
8. Ted Clement, MA; The effects of disclosure on the children of crossdressers: Ted J. Clement, TG Research, 10400 Rio Hondo Parkway, El Monte, CA 91733-1354
9. Richard Docter, Ph.D.; Ongoing research on various TG issues: Dr. Richard Docter, Cal. State Northridge, Psychology Department, Northridge, CA 91328

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poses of the state non-recognition provision above, one should look to the law of the state in which the relationship in question exists, and to the law of the state considering whether to recognize that relationship, and to federal law. For the purposes of the federal non-recognition provision, one should look to the law of the state in which the relationship in question exists, and to federal law.

I would expect that in most modern jurisdictions, "sex" for the purpose of marriage would be determined based on birth sex, or reassigned sex for post-operative transsexuals possessing functional genitalia corresponding to the reassigned sex and matching legal identification. See, for example, the case of M.T. v. J.T., reported at 355 Atlantic Reporter 2d 204 (Superior Ct. App. Div. 1976), in which the court found that a man owed support payments to his ex-wife, rejecting his argument that the marriage was void because she was a transsexual. Given the phobias and emotionalism still surrounding these issues, however, not every jurisdiction can be expected to treat this issue in such a balanced fashion.

Look at it this way. In assessing whether your marriage, or potential marriage, would be considered a same-sex marriage, the safest, best case would be if you and your partner were to have functional opposite primary sex characteristics (one penetrable vagina and one penis capable of penetrating), opposite legal identification, and opposite social sex roles. As you diverge from this model, your risk increases.

What are the risks? DOMA conceivably could apply whenever one is interacting with the state or federal government with respect to any subject matter having to do with one's marriage or status as a spouse. The rights, duties, benefits and claims which arise from this status—including rights to spousal support, inheritance, access to a sick or dying spouse, and survivorship benefits—are too numerous to recite here. There's a practical, day-to-day risk—which is to say that some phobic bureaucrat might become obstructive, whether or not DOMA in fact were to permit non-recognition of your relationship or status in the particular circumstances at issue. There's also a real risk of denial of claims, benefits, rights, etc., based on a correct application of DOMA's provisions.

Suppose you and your spouse were members of the opposite sex when married but no longer are because you had SRS. Has DOMA rendered your marriage void? There is no clear answer to this question, yet. Marriage is both a formal act, and an ongoing relationship conferring continuing status as a spouse. It is unclear from the language of the provisions quoted above whether Congress intended DOMA to reach back to invalidate marriages in which the spouses were of opposite sexes when the marriage was performed, but are members of the same sex now.

One should also examine the right at issue. For instance, suppose a wife seeks survivorship payments under her husband's federal pension, but the husband is now female. Did the right vest when the spouses were of opposite sexes? Did Congress intend DOMA to deprive the survivor—who apparently would not qualify as a "spouse" were the couple to attempt to marry today —of rights which vested at a time when she did qualify as a "spouse"? There is no clear answer, and the ramifications of DOMA in particular cases like these likely will be worked out over time through litigation.

Dana Priesing, JD, serves as GenderPAC's Congressional Advocacy Coordinator. GenderPAC is an informal association representing a number of organizations and associations which share a common interest in halting discrimination against diversity—particularly the natural human diversity in gender characteristics, behavior, expression and identity. Ms. Priesing can be reached via this magazine or at 733 15th Street, N.W., Washington, D.C. 20005 (202) 347 3024. E-mail Dpriesing@aol.com.

TG Culture: The Last Ten Years and The Next

Part I: 1986 to 1996

Alison Laing

As we approach the tenth anniversary of the IFGE, it seems appropriate to reflect on how we, the transgender community, have changed over these ten years and where, over the next ten years, we might be going. This is especially fascinating for me, since I began my life as "Alison" almost exactly a decade ago and have been a part of the TG community throughout this period. Hopefully, I will grow with it for another 10 years, and have the pleasure of seeing some of the dreams for which we have labored come true.

One of the primary differences in the TG world today, compared to ten tears ago, is the degree of self-acceptance which many transgendered people have achieved. Back in 1986, the majority of us were suffering from feelings of guilt, shame and fear. When we gathered then, we thought that through sharing our stories and developing friendships we might forget for a while that we were perverts or weirdos. Slowly we began to realize that we weren't that different from other people after all. We also discovered that as more of us began to feel good about ourselves, the faster new folks who joined us came to accept themselves and begin to feel good, too!

With this came a greater degree of public awareness and tolerance. You can say what you want to about the sensationalism with which TGs are presented on TV talk shows, but they and the dozens of movies that feature transgendered characters, also seemed to play a role in generating more public acceptance. The hundreds, perhaps even thousand of hours of presentations to schools, police departments, churches and hospitals also helped. As a result, most people are at least aware of us, and in many cases feel we are harmless and are willing to let us alone.

Another interesting thing is that we, as well as the populace at large, are all becoming more aware of the incredible diversity that exists and can thrive in a free society.

One unexpected, and very positive outcome of all this is that we TGs can see what I call the gender rainbow: sex, gender, sexual behavior and preference are not black and white; they are not even shades of gray. Instead, we live in a beautiful multi-dimensional rainbow of all degrees of freedom, and many of us realize we have the opportunity to move from one place in this spectrum to another.

We are also seeing an ever increasing number of individuals who opt for living in a permanently in the "contra-gender" role without surgery. They have been labeled everything from "non-operative" TS to "permanently preoperative" TS, to my preference, "transgenderists."

Another positive development of the last decade is the increasing visibility of the female-to-male TG population. What a joy it is to have this fun, exciting and wonderfully sensitive group of individuals sharing in our rainbow.

Well, so much for TGs in general. What about organizations? Ten years ago, it took a lot of courage and dedication to try to create a club or outreach program for TG individuals. The risk of 'outing' oneself or even of being physically attacked was very serious.

As in any movement, the initial founders tended to have to take on most of the work and responsibility to make things happen, and of course that means assuming authority. Inevitably, most of these organizations began somewhat autocratically. Over the years, new people joined the movement and became interested in working with these entities, especially people with experience in management, leadership, financial administration, publication and all the other skills needed to run organizations effectively. This resulted in a transition, sometimes rocky, to more democratic leadership concepts, such as consensus decisions and team-building, which ultimately makes for healthier and more effective organizations.

In addition, the past ten years have witnessed the proliferation of local organizations. Yet there are still many areas in the U.S. where TGs have to travel 100s of miles to find a support group.

We are also seeing more and stronger organizations at the national level. What is exciting is that though they may have a difference in emphasis, most are willing to cooperate in getting things that need to be done together, such as GenderPAC which is sponsoring the 1997 2nd National Lobby Day, and the Alliance for Community which has sponsored appearances at professional conferences and exhibitions such as AASECT and NASW.

But the greatest of these alliances are the ones that we are building with our brothers and sisters who come from a different place in the diversity spectrum, gays, lesbians and bisexuals. IFGE and GenderPAC, as well as representatives of other organizations, will be actively participating at the National Gay and Lesbian Task Force Creating Change Conference, November 6, 7, 8 and 9th in Washington, D.C. However, this cooperative alliance with the g/l/b community is not limited just to the national level. To my knowledge, in 1996, there were TG persons and organizations participating in every local Gay Pride event throughout this land.

That brings me to political activism. Ten years ago, only a few people were interested in trying to change the laws and make it legal to appear cross-dressed in public places. In some states and cities, these efforts have born fruit. Nationally, Phyllis Frye made a small foray to Washington, D.C. in early 1995, followed by the 100 individuals who participated in the 1st Annual Lobby Day at the Capital in October 1995.

But the best thing I have seen during the last decade is that more and more TG people are out and open. And this is a great indication that the claims that I made in the beginning, about more acceptance by both ourselves and by society, are true and not just wishful thinking. Because to be out and open, you need to be proud and have confidence, and have a society that is at least tolerant of TG behavior and appearance.

In the next issue I am going to try to look in my highly polished crystal ball and see where the TG movement might be headed during the next ten years.

(Alision Laing is the Executive Director of IFGE.)

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